

# SENATOR'S NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: 05.09.11  
CONTACT: SEN. THOMPSON  
PHONE: 318.878.9408

## SENATOR THOMPSON URGES NE LA CITIZENS TO REMAIN ALERT AS MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERS RISE

### PARTNERS WITH STATE, FEDERAL & LOCAL OFFICIALS TO PREPARE FOR PREDICTED FLOODING

District 34 State Senator Francis Thompson (D-Delhi) is urging residents in the Louisiana Delta region to stay informed and alert as to the latest information about rising waters in the Mississippi River and the potential impact on Northeast Louisiana. As a member of the Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security and chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Sen. Thompson is encouraging citizens to be prepared to protect themselves and their property.

"As the work of the regular legislative session is underway in Baton Rouge, state, federal and local officials are making every effort to minimize the impact of Mississippi River - related flooding on our area. We are all confident we will be ready to assist families and businesses if the need arises," Sen. Thompson said. "Citizens are urged to stay abreast of the most current, reliable information from local officials and local media about the rising river and be ready to react if necessary."

Local emergency preparedness officials are coordinating emergency response efforts with state and federal officials providing equipment and logistical support. Louisiana National Guard teams are already on the ground assisting with efforts in East Carroll, Tensas, Madison and Concordia parishes. The Department of Transportation and Development is providing support for sandbagging and fortification of levees in East Carroll Parish. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture is providing support for agricultural interests impacted by the expected flooding.

"As chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am keeping a close eye on the possible impact on prime agriculture land in Northeast Louisiana and across the state," Sen. Thompson said. "I am pleased that Agriculture Commissioner Strain is acting quickly to assist our farmers and our families."

To stay up-to-date on the status of Mississippi River - related flooding issues, go to [www.emergency.louisiana.gov](http://www.emergency.louisiana.gov) or contact the parish emergency preparedness office in your area.

###