



# News Release

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LOUISIANA STATE SENATE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: 3.29.21**  
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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND SENATOR PATRICK CONNICK  
ENCOURAGE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MID-BARATARIA SEDIMENT DIVERSION PROJECT  
DISCUSSION SET FOR APRIL 14**

The Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project (MBSD) is scheduled for discussion in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources in Senate Committee Room A/B at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 1 p.m. and all interested parties are encouraged to attend.

The committee is set to discuss updates on the proposed MBSD Project, including the contents of the recently released Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New Orleans Division. The project, when completed, will connect freshwater, nutrients, and sediment from the Lower Mississippi River to the wetlands in the Barataria Basin.

Louisiana’s coast is losing land at a rate faster than anywhere in the world and it is estimated that in the next 50 years it will lose another 550 square miles in the Barataria Basin alone. The MBSD project plans to counteract Louisiana’s coastal land loss by harnessing the Mississippi River to build up and maintain land in the wetlands of the Barataria Basin. The build-up of additional land will protect area residents from riverine, tidal flooding, and storm surge, as well as assist in the maintenance of aquatic habitats. The draft EIS contains the environmental impacts the project will have on South Louisiana.

“This project will directly impact area communities, industries, and wildlife,” said Senator Connick. “As an area legislator, it’s important to me that those most affected by this project are a part of the conversation. Hopefully, this meeting will bring about a much-needed conversation on how to best move forward.”

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend the meeting on April 14 and join in on the discussion. Testimony received will be shared with the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to distribute to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other parties making final decisions on the project.

For more information on the project and the draft EIS, please visit:  
<https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Barataria-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/>.

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