

May 21, 2025

The Honorable Jeff Landry

Governor of Louisiana

Office of the Governor

P.O. Box 94004

Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Landry:

As business and civic leaders from across South Louisiana, we commend you for your leadership in making Louisiana a more competitive place to do business, and for the tremendous economic development wins your Administration has brought to our great state.

However, with hurricane season fast approaching and the 15th anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill upon us, we write to you today to express our concerns about coastal erosion and the long-term sustainability and insurability of south Louisiana. We have long supported Louisiana's science-backed Coastal Master Plan because it is the best option we have to restore our wetlands so that future generations can call south Louisiana home.

We want to explicitly express our support for the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion (MBSD), which is the linchpin of the Coastal Master Plan. We urge you and your Administration to resume construction of MBSD at the size and scope that it is permitted and funded as soon as possible. We are concerned that canceling or modifying this project will seriously hamper our ability to rebuild wetlands in the Barataria Basin, make it harder for communities to recover from hurricanes, and worsen Louisiana's insurance crisis.

Our coastal program works. Since 2005, it has fortified levees and coastal ecosystems benefiting over 67,000 acres, improved 383 miles of levee, and restored 71.6 miles of barrier islands. Furthermore, an overwhelming 82% of informed Louisiana voters support using sediment diversions to build new and sustain existing wetlands in Louisiana — a figure up from 80% in 2023. Additionally, voters in the Greater New Orleans region overwhelmingly support the completion of the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion.

The tangible gains achieved by Louisiana's coastal program hold together the fabric of our communities, give business leaders the confidence to invest in and plan for the future, protect increasingly vulnerable infrastructure, and strengthen our beloved Sportsman's

Paradise. As we face another hurricane season, we can't lose our momentum. We urge you to resume construction of MBSD as it is permitted and funded as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Carol Allen**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Joseph Anthony**

Fin-Addicts RV Park  
Grand Isle

**Mike Benge**

Delacroix Corporation  
St. Bernard

**Tommy Brennan**

Civic Leader  
Mandeville

**Christian T. "Christy" Brown**

NOLA Holdings, LLC  
New Orleans

**Mike Bush**

River Rest Duck Club  
Myrtle Grove

**Nicole Charbonnet**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Joan Coulter**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Kevin Crossen**

Charter Boat Captain  
Port Sulphur

**Kent Davis**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Tim Allen**

Business Leader  
Lafourche

**John Barry**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Jane Bertrand**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Dickie Brennan**

Dickie Brennan & Company  
New Orleans

**Bethany Bultman**

Justice & Beyond of Louisiana  
New Orleans

**Batou Chandler**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Vanessa Brown Claiborne**

Chaffe & Associates  
New Orleans

**Foster Creppel**

Innkeeper, Woodland Plantation  
West Point a la Hache

**Charles B. Davis**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Sharon Dowty**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Carmen L. Duncan**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Karen Giger Eustis**

Civic Leader  
Venice

**Randy Fertel**

Author and Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Richard W. Freeman, Jr.**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Scott P. Howard**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Susu Kearney**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Merritt Lane**

Canal Barge  
New Orleans

**Gay LeBreton**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Mike Mariana**

Plaquemines Parish Resident  
Belle Chase

**R. King Milling**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Chad Nolan**

ABC Supply Co  
New Orleans

**Berwick Duval**

Business Leader  
Houma

**Ted Falgout**

Business Leader  
Larose

**Tina Freeman**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Britt Galloway**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Janet Howard**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Ryan Lambert**

Cajun Fishing Adventures  
Buras

**Connor LeBlanc**

General Informatics  
Baton Rouge

**Richard Lipsey**

Business Leader  
Baton Rouge

**Anne Milling**

Women of the Storm  
New Orleans

**Spencer Murphy**

Canal Barge  
New Orleans

**Lisa Peterson**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Ryan Prewitt**

Pêche Restaurant  
New Orleans

**Jimmy Reiss**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Tina Shannon**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Susan Spicer**

Rosedale Restaurant  
New Orleans

**Chris Turpin**

Plaquemines Parish Resident  
Belle Chase

**Karen Kraak Wood**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Carol Pulitzer**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**R. Larry Schmidt**

Civic Leader  
New Orleans

**Bill Shearman**

Civic Leader  
Lake Charles

**Mike Stag**

Stag Liuzza  
New Orleans

**Steven W. Usdin**

Business Leader  
New Orleans

**Margaret Woodward**

Business Leader  
New Orleans