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Charlotte A. Randolph, Parish President

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate release: January 24, 2007

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Lafourche Commends Oil Exploration Co. for Coastal Restoration Plans

The Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Advisory Committee commends Goldking Operating Company in their review of a drill site in near Leeville. This company is taking a different approach than most to access this site, an approach that is encouraged locally and would help rebuild the area near the site.

Goldking, in conjunction with engineering and surveying firm T. Baker Smith, plans to use a suction dredge to create an access to the site. Goldking intends to use the sediment from the suction dredge to promote land restoration in the area by depositing the sediment near the site. This method is highly recommended by the CZM Advisory Committee. "Normally, these companies use a prop wash method to create their access way," said CZM Permit Coordinator Vincent Melvin. He explained that this disturbs bottom of the waterway and does not use the sediment in a productive manner.

"This is a prime example of how the oil and gas industry can contribute to protecting our coast," said Lafourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph. "We commend Goldking and T. Baker Smith for their efforts to promote coastal restoration and hope to see other oil exploration companies follow their lead."

Louisiana faces the ever-increasing problem of coastal erosion. Today, Louisiana loses approximately one football field worth of land every 38 minutes. "Every effort we can make to restore our coast slows this process," said Randolph.

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