

PRESS ALERT CITY OF GRETNA For Immediate Release

October 27, 2023

For more information, contact City of Gretna Emergency Line (504) 247-4016

UPDATE: City of Gretna (70053) Saltwater Intrusion Timeline Update

Gretna, LA — as of October 24, 2023, the City of Gretna has been given an updated timeline for when the saltwater wedge is expected to reach our water treatment intake. The Army Corp of Engineers is now predicting the saltwater wedge will arrive at river mile marker 96.7 after November 30, 2023.

The previous timeline date projected was November 26, 2023. The change in the saltwater intrusion timeline represents current National Weather Service forecasts, surveyed movement of the saltwater toe, and modeled benefits from the augmented underwater sill. The flow of the Mississippi River and the augmented underwater sill have prevented the saltwater wedge from moving upriver as quickly as originally anticipated.

The Army Corp of Engineers will be providing weekly updates on future saltwater intrusion projections. As of now, the residents living in the zip code 70053, who receive water from the City of Gretna water treatment plant, are at no risk of saltwater intrusion in October 2023. The November 30 date of impact is subject to change relative to updates that the Army Corp of Engineers will provide.

The City of Gretna wants its residents to be assured that we are still doing all we can to prepare for any potential impacts. We are exploring several options to ensure the health and safety of our residents. We encourage our residents to stay informed about updates regarding the saltwater intrusion on the Mississippi River by visiting <u>www.emergency.la.gov/saltwater</u>. Please stay tuned for further details on the City of Gretna's Facebook-<u>www.facebook.com/CityOfGretna</u>, and website-<u>www.gretnala.com</u>.

