



**West Galveston Island Property Owners Association**

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### **Surge Suppression / Coastal Spine / Ike Dike**

**Whereas**, on September 13, 2008, Hurricane Ike made landfall on the upper Texas coast along eastern Galveston Island and western Bolivar Peninsula with a hurricane force wind field 180 miles wide, pushing an unprecedented storm surge blocking escape approximately 24 hours in advance of landfall; and

**Whereas**, Hurricane Ike is one of the most expensive disasters in our Nation's history causing loss of life, widespread destruction of structures, extreme beach erosion, loss of critical habitat, displacing tens of thousands of citizens, forever altering their lives; and,

**Whereas**, the upper Texas coast, and specifically the Houston-Galveston "Energy Corridor" is home to some of the world's largest, and America's most critical petro-chemical complexes; and,

**Whereas**, nearly 60 percent of all Americans live within 50 miles of a coast; the Houston-Galveston metro area is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest population center in the Nation and the Port of Houston is the largest port; and,

**Whereas**, social justice requires equal services and equal protection for all citizens potentially at risk; the Galveston County area is not a surge barrier for Houston and,

**Whereas**, the technology exists to provide surge protection to all citizens along the Galveston County coastline. Prevailing coastal engineering practice and expertise has made the technology to construct surge suppression systems feasible and cost effective; and,

**Whereas**, surge suppression systems have been implemented for many hundreds of years along the coast of the Netherlands and Belgium; following the Great Flood of 1953 the Netherlands began construction of the "Delta Works"; and the United Kingdom constructed a surge barrier on the Thames river below London; and,

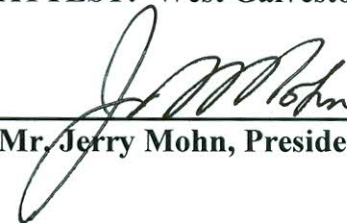


**Whereas,** following Hurricane Katrina a 133 mile chain of levees, flood walls, surge barriers, gates and pumps was constructed to protect the City of New Orleans, even though it lacks the population, critical facilities, or national economic significance of the Houston Galveston area.

**Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved the West Galveston Island Property Owners Association acting through its representative members calls upon federal legislators, local and state leaders and private industry to provide the necessary effort and support to implement a surge suppression /Ike Dike/coastal spine to protect the Houston-Galveston area from inundation.**

On this the **20th** day of **April, 2013**, the **West Galveston Island Property Owners Association**, consisting of 38 property owner associations on West Galveston Island, convened in a regularly scheduled meeting. Upon Motion by Ms. Peggy Zahler and second by Mr. Tom Boothe, and receiving unanimous vote of the Members present this Resolution was **Approved**.

**ATTEST: West Galveston Island Property Owners Association**

  
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Mr. Jerry Mohn, President

Date: 4/20/13

