MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1033 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 – Corrosion Prevention

1. Section 1033 of WRRDA 2014 directs the Secretary to encourage and incorporate corrosion prevention activities at water resources development projects. Such activities include best practices, use of industry-recognized standards and corrosion mitigation and prevention methods; use of certified coating application specialists and cathodic protection technicians and engineers; use of best practices for environmental protection; demonstration of a history of employing industry-certified inspectors; and, demonstration of a history of compliance with applicable requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Corrosion prevention activities are defined to mean: application and inspection of protective coatings for complex work involving steel and cementitious structures, including those exposed in immersion; installation testing and inspection of cathodic protection systems; and any other activities related to corrosion prevention the Secretary determines appropriate. A copy of Section 1033 of WRRDA 2014 is enclosed.

2. In designing, constructing, operating and maintaining water resource projects, the Corps uses established design practices as reflected in standard guidance specifications for Civil Works projects. These guide specifications cover a wide range of potential applications and can be modified to address specific site requirements unique to individual projects. The Corps will continue to use the following general established guidance along with other state of the art developed by the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center: EM 1110-2-2704 (Cathodic Protection Systems for Civil Works Structures); EM 1110-2-3400 (Painting: New Construction and Maintenance); UFGS-09 97 02, Painting: Hydraulic Structures; and UFGS-26 42 19.10, Cathodic Protection Systems (Impressed Current) for Lock Miter Gates.

3. The Corps, by practice, conducts research within the agency and can and should seek input from external vendors to solve most corrosion problems. This will help ensure that industry-recognized standards, mitigation and prevention methods are applied when determining protective coatings; selecting materials; and determining methods of cathodic protection, design, and engineering for corrosion prevention. In
situations where there is no relevant history within the Corps, industry standards may be followed. When determined prudent by the Corps, industry specialists can be engaged to ensure application and adherence to best practices and standards. Further, environmental protection, handling of hazardous materials, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements should always be considered and documented when designing, building or modifying a structure.

Encl

JAMES C. DALTON, P.E.
Chief, Engineering and Construction
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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SEC. 1033. CORROSION PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To the greatest extent practicable, the Secretary shall encourage and incorporate corrosion prevention activities at water resources development projects.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary, to the greatest extent practicable, shall ensure that contractors performing work for water resources development projects—

(1) use best practices to carry out corrosion prevention activities in the field;
(2) use industry-recognized standards and corrosion mitigation and prevention methods when—
   (A) determining protective coatings;
   (B) selecting materials; and
   (C) determining methods of cathodic protection, design, and engineering for corrosion prevention;
(3) use certified coating application specialists and cathodic protection technicians and engineers;
(4) use best practices in environmental protection to prevent environmental degradation and to ensure careful handling of all hazardous materials;
(5) demonstrate a history of employing industry-certified inspectors to ensure adherence to best practices and standards; and
(6) demonstrate a history of compliance with applicable requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

(c) CORROSION PREVENTION ACTIVITIES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “corrosion prevention activities” means—

(1) the application and inspection of protective coatings for complex work involving steel and cementitious structures, including structures that will be exposed in immersion
(2) the installation, testing, and inspection of cathodic protection systems; and
(3) any other activities related to corrosion prevention the Secretary determines appropriate.