



1 of salt interacts with faults associated with the salt structures.

2 (4) Continual episodic and slow creep fault slip may cause preferentially thicker  
3 accumulations of compactible organic clays and peats on the downthrown side of the faults,  
4 thereby delineating areas where subsidence rates may be higher due to the greater  
5 compactibility of the soil column.

6 (5) Faulting poses a natural hazard in southeastern Louisiana, and the findings of the  
7 report have direct applications to the planning and design of coastal restoration efforts,  
8 including infrastructure element; and

9 WHEREAS, a research initiative by the New Orleans Geological Society (NOGS)  
10 has resulted in six research projects at the University of New Orleans (UNO), the University  
11 of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL), and Tulane University that have used oil and gas industry  
12 seismic data to study several aspects of the conclusions of the USACE report; and

13 WHEREAS, the preliminary conclusions of these research projects, some of which  
14 have been presented at the annual meetings of the Geological Society of America and the  
15 American Geophysical Union, and several of which are scheduled for presentation at the  
16 State of the Coast Conference in June 2018, have shown conclusively that oil and gas  
17 industry seismic data can be used to extrapolate the location of faults at the land surface and  
18 to study patterns of episodic fault slip; and

19 WHEREAS, the Restore Act Center of Excellence awarded a research grant on  
20 June 22, 2017, for the project entitled "An Evaluation of Faulting in Holocene Mississippi  
21 River Delta Strata through the Merger of Deep 3-D and 2-D Seismic Data with Near Surface  
22 Imaging and Measurements of Vertical Motion at Three Study Areas" to researchers from  
23 UNO, ULL, Tulane University, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF), and the  
24 University of Kentucky, which is underway, and is making use of oil and gas industry  
25 seismic data; and

26 WHEREAS, research supported by the University Transportation Consortium, the  
27 Transportation Consortium of South-Central States, and the Louisiana Transportation  
28 Research Center is underway to start the process of assessing the use of oil and gas industry  
29 seismic data to study the impacts of subsurface geological faulting on transportation  
30 infrastructure; and

1           WHEREAS, LPBF has conducted research on subsidence rates from faulting  
2           determined by Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) Elevation Surveys of bridges in Lake  
3           Pontchartrain showing that recent fault movement is both causing subsidence and impacting  
4           infrastructure; and

5           WHEREAS, a presentation by NOGS at the upcoming 2018 State of the Coast  
6           Conference will examine the use of oil and gas industry data to help assess the potential for  
7           faults to impact Mississippi River levees; and

8           WHEREAS, LGS and NOGS have joined to lead the development of a Louisiana  
9           Coastal Geohazards Atlas, and the focus of the atlas will be on the landforms developed in  
10          a variety of underlying geologic settings and which are affected by faulting, subsidence, and  
11          flooding; and

12          WHEREAS, the atlas will provide valuable technical data to inform the state's  
13          planning and prioritization of integrated coastal protection projects, infrastructure projects,  
14          and statewide flood control projects; and

15          WHEREAS, construction of the Coastal Geohazards Atlas will rely heavily on the  
16          contributions of interpretations of faults from oil and gas industry seismic data.

17          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
18          urge and request the oil and gas industry in Louisiana to support the construction of the  
19          Louisiana Coastal Geological Survey Geohazards Atlas by providing access to  
20          interpretations of faults and other geological features from 3-D seismic data.

21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
22          presidents of the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association and the Louisiana Oil  
23          and Gas Association, the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development,  
24          the governor's executive assistant for coastal activities, and the executive director of the  
25          office of community development.

