



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Portion of Highway LA 981 to close starting Monday, April 20**

Both lanes to close for 10 days

**New Roads, La** – Both lanes of Highway LA 981 just south of Big Cajun II Power Plant to approximately one-quarter mile past the John James Audubon Bridge project site will be closed from April 20-29. The closures are necessary for installation of steel girders for the high-level approaches of the John James Audubon Bridge. Both lanes will re-open April 30.

The John James Audubon Bridge project is a new Mississippi River crossing between Pointe Coupee and West Feliciana parishes in south central Louisiana. The bridge--proposed to be the longest cable-stayed bridge in North America--will replace an existing ferry between the communities of New Roads and St. Francisville.

The bridge will also serve as the only bridge structure on the Mississippi River between Natchez, Mississippi and Baton Rouge, Louisiana (approximately 90 river miles).

The Bridge is part of The TIMED Program ([www.timedla.com](http://www.timedla.com)), the single largest transportation program in state history. The Program is designed to enhance economic development in Louisiana through an investment in transportation projects and is funded by a dedicated \$0.04 per gallon gasoline and motor fuels tax. It was created by Act 16 of the 1989 Louisiana Legislature and was approved by a vote of the people. For additional information, please contact Sam Moore, TIMED spokesman, at 1-866-TIMED LA or visit [www.timedla.com](http://www.timedla.com).

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