BREAUX, BOGGS

Congressmen Starting Push For Atchafalaya Funding

WASHINGTON (AP) - Two Louisiana congressmen say they've launched a push to get federal approval and money in fiscal 1984 for the Atchafalaya River Basin preservation and flood control plan.

Reps. John Breaux of Crowley and Lindy Boggs of New Orleans said they're trying in House committees to get authorization for money for the project.

Breaux said he has the support of leadership in the House public works committee to get a $250 million authorization figure for the total, long-range cost of the Basin plan into a new federal water projects bill.

The bill should be drawn up by July 5, he said.

Mrs. Boggs said she has been guaranteed that the House appropriations committee, which she chairs, will put the first installment of money for the project into a 1984 appropriations bill after the authorizing committee approves $12 million for buying land.

He would then need $34 million in federal funds to proceed with the land purchases, Treen has said.

Treen testified last week before a U.S. Senate subcommittee which put a $195 million authorization figure for the Basin plan into its water projects bill.