

## Part 4

**POLICY ISSUES  
THAT WILL  
LIKELY BE  
ADDRESSED BY  
CONGRESS**

# POLICY ISSUES - 1

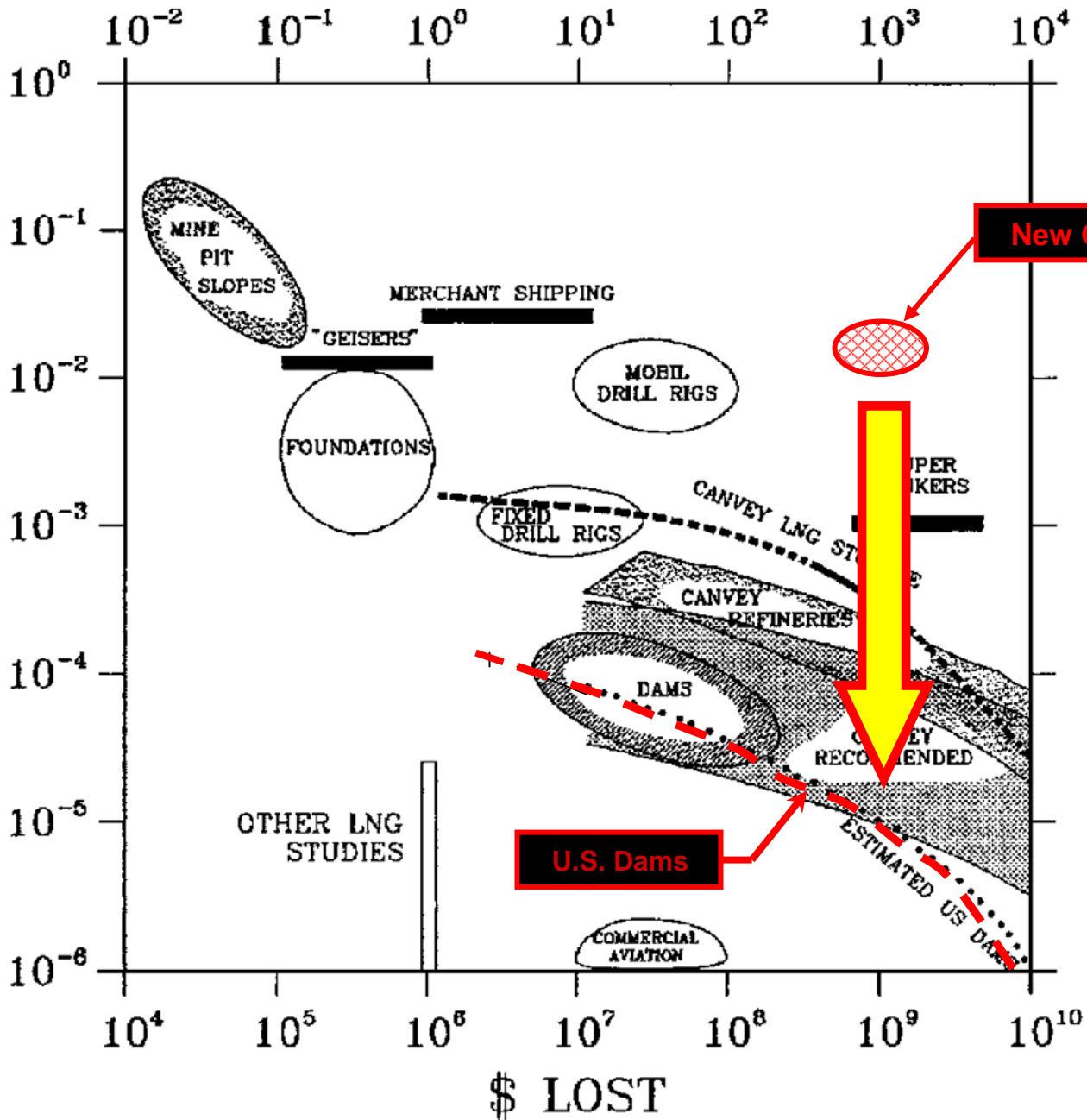
- Can we design structures with **sufficient redundancy** to withstand extreme events, like Category 4 or 5 hurricanes?
- **Wind-driven debris** weighing upwards of 10 tons can be slammed into structures like **destructive projectiles**; smaller debris can shred structures like a massive sand blaster (e.g. New Orleans Superdome).
- Highways and power lines will be taken out by **fallen trees** and **structural debris**.
- High **storm surges** will wreak havoc on port facilities, wharves, warehouses, and tethered vessels; scattering or obliterating them.



- **Policy Issues:** Should **Interstate highways** be constructed at a grade **above** the maximum probably flood level, wherever possible, to better ensure emergency vehicle access?

# LIVES LOST

ANNUAL PROBABILITY OF "FAILURE"



# POLICY ISSUES -2

- People living within dike-protected lands are not part of the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** because it is assumed that the levees will never fail. **Fix NFIP to be more inclusive**
- This seems altogether to be an outdated policy. **Levees** can be expected to fail under extreme events; **they are not presently designed with same level of redundancy as dams, with same factor of safety and peer review.** **Create a National Levee Safety Protection Act**
- Impractical to place floors of New Orleans above the 200-yr flood level, which could be as much as 38 ft above existing grade. **Create polders in low portions of New Orleans**