The Regional Impact Study (RIS) effort, led by the GO Group, was commissioned to evaluate and identify the impacts of the announced capital projects to the five-parish region and propose recommendations and strategies for mitigating those impacts. CSRS, a Louisiana company specializing in infrastructure and facilities planning, conducted the nine-month study sponsored by Sasol.

The RIS examined the cumulative impact of the announced industrial, commercial and other economic development projects in our five-parish region.

The study includes a full socioeconomic model of Southwest Louisiana that contains the planned projects, an evaluation of the region’s current infrastructure and recommended pathways to address potential infrastructure gaps and community needs that may develop as these projects reach the construction stage. The study investigates the following critical areas: transportation, schools, health services, utilities, emergency services, environment and regulations relative to land development.

GO GROUP
The GO Group, formed in early 2013, has been focused on developing strategies to ensure the successful implementation of planned economic development projects for Southwest Louisiana. The GO Group worked with the RIS project team to identify and access needed information and provided input to the project team throughout the study to ensure the findings and recommendations would be useful to community leaders in their preparation and planning efforts.

UPDATE
With the study now complete, the GO Group will work with regional leadership and local governmental agencies to review the study’s recommendations and prioritize planning and next steps in policy development. Recently, the group established task forces in the areas of public service improvements, education and workforce development, growth planning and special community-related initiatives.

To view the complete Regional Impact Study and progress updates, visit: www.gogroupswla.com.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Growth and Opportunity Group, Southwest Louisiana Chamber-Economic Development Alliance, public administrators and staff from the Southwest Louisiana region.

Learn more about Sasol and other community initiatives at www.sasolnorthamerica.com