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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 1, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving Confidential Project Meridian as a Qualified Target Industry business pursuant to Section 288.106, Florida Statutes; confirming that the commitment of local financial support necessary for Confidential Project Meridian exists; and providing that local financial support of up to $105,000.00 from Countywide General Revenue Funds will be available as local participation in the State of Florida Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 through 2023-2024 inclusive, or over a time period as determined by the State of Florida in its approval of Confidential Project Meridian

Resolution No. R-955-16

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/lmp

Memorandum

Date: November 1, 2016

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Resolution Approving Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund for Confidential Project Meridian

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Recommendation

The Beacon Council, on behalf of a company requesting confidentiality, has submitted an application for economic development incentives from the State of Florida (State) and Miami-Dade County that require approval from the Board of County Commissioners (Board). It is recommended that the Board authorize Confidential Project Meridian to be recognized by the State as a Qualified Target Industry (QTI) business and entitled to the financial benefits afforded under the QTI Tax Refund Program.

Scope

Confidential Project Meridian is an existing international logistics company whose divisions include air, land, and sea freight transportation. The location is confidential at this time but will be in Commission District 6, which is represented by Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. When this project is fully operational, it will create 75 new full-time equivalent jobs, as defined in Florida Statute Section 288.106, while transferring five (5) existing jobs within Miami-Dade County.

Fiscal Impact / Funding Source

Confidential Project Meridian has applied for a total of $525,000.00 in QTI Tax Refund Program incentives, of which 80 percent ($420,000.00) would be provided by the State and the remaining 20 percent ($105,000.00) is the local match provided by Miami-Dade County. If the accompanying resolution is approved by the Board, Miami-Dade County is committed to provide up to $105,000.00 in matching funds from Countywide General Fund revenues to be paid over a six-year period beginning in FY 2018-19. Based on the projected capital investment of $759,000.00 in new real property, the project will generate $12,922.00 (over a six-year period) in Countywide General Fund ad valorem revenues, which results in a net fiscal deficit of $92,078.00 to the County. However, creating a net positive fiscal impact to the County's Countywide General Fund revenues is not a condition of the award.

Additionally, based on the creation of 75 new jobs with an average salary of $90,000.00, this project will generate $44,213,120.00 in direct and indirect wages over the six-year period the project is eligible for the award.

Miami-Dade County's local match is required when the State determines that the 75 new jobs have been created and have met the average salary threshold required in the State's QTI Tax Refund Program according to the schedule set forth in the attached application. The disbursement schedule and the anticipated dates for job creation are subject to change at the discretion of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Track Record/Monitor

QTI funds awarded for job creation are provided on a matching basis upon the State invoicing Miami-Dade County for its 20 percent of the financial commitment for jobs created and verified by

the State. The incentive amount is determined by the new jobs created and their annual salary. The State is responsible for verifying compliance with the terms of the award. Miami-Dade County's matching funds are distributed only if the applicant creates the new jobs indicated in the accompanying QTI Tax Refund Program application and complies with all other conditions of the incentive program.

County staff requires access to the company's real estate and tangible personal property filings during the incentive period to monitor the fiscal impact to the Countywide General Fund from the QTI Tax Refund Program.

Background

Confidential Project Meridian is an international logistics company whose divisions include air, land, and freight transportation. The company is seeking to relocate its regional headquarters from Freeport, New York to Miami-Dade County. This facility would consolidate the business operations for North, South, and Central America as well as the Caribbean by expanding its facility space by an additional 8,200 square feet (North American Industry Classification System Code 551144). The renovations are anticipated to commence before the end of 2016. Alternative locations for this project include: Dallas, Texas; Irving, Texas; Coppell, Texas; and Atlanta, Georgia.

Confidential Project Meridian would employ 75 new workers paying an average annualized salary of $90,000.00, which is more than 200 percent of the average annual State wage. According to documents submitted by The Beacon Council, employee benefits associated with each newly created job will be $25,200.00. The value of employee benefits is not a requirement of the tax refund agreement with the State or the County's local match.

Project details are summarized in the attached chart.

Jack Osterholt
Deputy Mayor

CONFIDENTIAL PROJECT MERIDIAN	
APPLICANT:	Project Meridian
HEADQUARTERS LOCATION:	Freeport, New York
PROPOSED LOCATION IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY:	TBD
OTHER LOCATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION:	Texas and Georgia
DATE OF QTI/TJIF APPLICATIONS:	August 2, 2016 Revised October 5, 2016
OVERALL BUSINESS ACTIVITY/MISSION:	Transportation logistics
PROPOSED LOCAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY:	Construction and buildout
PROPOSED CAPITAL INVESTMENT:	$759,000.00 (Not a condition of the award)
TARGETED QUALIFIED INDUSTRY:	Regional Headquarters
LOCATION IN DESIGNATED PRIORITY AREA?	No
NEW BUSINESS OR EXPANDING BUSINESS:	Expanding
TOTAL NUMBER OF DIRECT JOBS TO BE CREATED/RETAINED:	75/5
EFFORT IN HIRING RESIDENTS IN LOCAL AREA:	unknown
ANNUALIZED AVERAGE WAGES FOR NEW JOBS:	$90,000.00
ANNUAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PACKAGE:	$25,200.00 (Not a condition of incentive award)
NUMBER OF INDIRECT JOBS TO BE CREATED:	24
NUMBER OF YEARS TO CREATE NEW JOBS:	3
MAXIMUM TAX REFUND PER DIRECT JOBS:	$7,000.00
MAXIMUM INCENTIVE AWARD APPLIED FOR:	$525,000.00
PROJECTED INCREMENTAL COUNTY TAX REVENUE:	$12,922.00 (Not a condition of the award)
COUNTY'S MAXIMUM 20% QUALIFIED TARGET **INDUSTRY AWARD:**	$105,000.00
STATE'S MAXIMUM 80% QUALIFIED TARGET **INDUSTRY AWARD CONTRIBUTION:**	$420,000.00
TYPE OF FUNDS REQUESTED IN APPLICATION:	Countywide General Fund Revenues
COMMENTS: summary sheet prepared by RER from information and data provided by the Beacon Council.	

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 1, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)

Please note any items checked.

_____	**"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised**
_____	**6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
_____	**4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
_____	**Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
_____	**Budget required**
_____	**Statement of fiscal impact required**
_____	**Statement of social equity required**
_____	**Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing**
✓	**No committee review**
_____	**Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous _____) to approve**
_____	**Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)
11-1-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-955-16

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONFIDENTIAL PROJECT MERIDIAN AS A QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY BUSINESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 288.106, FLORIDA STATUTES; CONFIRMING THAT THE COMMITMENT OF LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT NECESSARY FOR CONFIDENTIAL PROJECT MERIDIAN EXISTS; AND PROVIDING THAT LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF UP TO $105,000.00 FROM COUNTYWIDE GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018-2019 THROUGH 2023-2024 INCLUSIVE, OR OVER A TIME PERIOD AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN ITS APPROVAL OF CONFIDENTIAL PROJECT MERIDIAN

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, Economic Impact Overview, and General Project Overview, copies of which are incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, The Beacon Council has submitted an application for economic development incentives from the State of Florida ("State") and Miami-Dade County on behalf of Confidential Project Meridian to be recognized by the State as a Qualified Target Industry business and entitled to the financial benefits afforded under the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program; and

WHEREAS, Confidential Project Meridian commits to create 75 full-time equivalent jobs, as defined in section 288.106, Florida Statutes, in Miami-Dade County by December 31, 2019 with an average salary of $90,000.00, which is more than 200 percent of the average annual State wage; and

WHEREAS, the tax refunds provided under the Florida Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program to Confidential Project Meridian may be prorated by the State of Florida pursuant to the terms of the General Project Overview in the event that Confidential Project Meridian creates fewer than 75 full-time equivalent jobs; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to monitor the economic and fiscal impacts of the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program in Miami-Dade County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board approves Confidential Project Meridian as a Qualified Target Industry business pursuant to section 288.106, Florida Statutes, which created the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program.

Section 2. The necessary commitment of local financial support for Confidential Project Meridian as required under the section 288.106, Florida Statutes, exists in an amount not to exceed $105,000.00 from Miami-Dade County's countywide general funds and this local financial support will be available in the following increments:

Fiscal Year 2018-2019	$17,500.00
Fiscal Year 2019-2020	$17,500.00
Fiscal Year 2020-2021	$17,500.00
Fiscal Year 2021-2022	$17,500.00
Fiscal Year 2022-2023	$17,500.00
Fiscal Year 2023-2024	$17,500.00
	$105,000.00

or payable over a time period and at annual amounts as determined by the State of Florida in its approval of Confidential Project Meridian's application, as long as the $105,000.00 is not exceeded with the provision that any tax abatement grant to Confidential Project Meridian under section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, reduces any QTI tax refund by the amount of any such

abatement granted, in compliance with section 288.106(6)(d), Florida Statutes; and the County's funds will be paid to the Florida Economic Development Trust Fund with the stipulation that these funds are intended to represent the "local financial support" required by section 288.106, Florida Statutes, for Confidential Project Meridian, in compliance with the QTI Program.

The necessary commitment of local financial support shall be contingent upon Confidential Project Meridian maintaining the jobs during the life of the incentive, ensuring that its hiring practices aspire to be consistent with and reflect the diversity of the Miami-Dade County community, and providing the County with access to tax information and documents necessary to monitor economic and fiscal impacts of the designation of Confidential Project Meridian as a Qualified Target Industry business.

The anticipated dates for the job creation and disbursement of the incentive awards are subject to change at the discretion of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. However, the County's 20 percent local match will not exceed $105,000.00.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jean Monestime, Chairman	**aye**		
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman	**aye**		
Bruno A. Barreiro	**absent**	Daniella Levine Cava	**aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Sally A. Heyman	**aye**	Barbara J. Jordan	**absent**
Dennis C. Moss	**absent**	Rebeca Sosa	**aye**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**aye**	Xavier L. Suarez	**absent**
Juan C. Zapata	**aye**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of November, 2016. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: Christopher Agrippa
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Shannon D. Summerset

THE BEACON COUNCIL

Miami-Dade
County's
Official
Economic
Development
Partnership

October 5, 2016

Mr. Jack Osterholt
Deputy Mayor
Miami-Dade County
Stephen P. Clark Center
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 2910
Miami, FL 33128

80 Southwest
Eighth Street
Suite 2400
Miami,
Florida
33130
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305.579.1300
Facsimile:
305.375.0271
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council.com

RE: Confidential Project: Meridian

Dear Mr. Osterholt:

Attached you will find the application for Confidential Project: Meridian to the State of Florida's Qualified Targeted Industry Tax Refund Program (QTI). Confidential Project: Meridian is an international logistics specialist with multiple locations worldwide. The project will create 75 direct new jobs with an average annualized salary of $90,000, (more than 200% of the Average Annual State Wage) over a three year period and will make a new capital investment of $759,000 in Miami-Dade County. Alternate locations include: Dallas, Irving, and Coppell, Texas; and Atlanta, Georgia.

We are referring this application to your office for review and preparation of a resolution to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners requesting a maximum of $105,000, representing Miami-Dade's 20% QTI portion, to be paid over a period of six years. Attached is the project briefing book as well as the economic impact analysis prepared by The Beacon Council's Research Department.

We are requesting that the item be placed on the next possible BCC agenda.

We look forward to working together for the benefit of the economic development of Miami-Dade County. If you have any questions, please contact me at (305) 579-1360.

Sincerely,

James Kohnstamm
Senior Vice President
Economic Development

Enclosures

Copy: Leland Salomon

Florida Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund (QTI)

Confidential Project: Meridian

October, 2016

Prepared by the Beacon Council

//

Executive Summary for Confidential Project: Meridian

Background

Confidential Project: Meridian is an international logistics specialist with multiple locations worldwide that is relocating its Regional Hemisphere Headquarters Office. The project will create 75 direct new jobs with an average annualized salary of $90,000, and make a new capital investment of $759,000 over a 3-year period. The average salary of $90,000 represents more than 200% of the State average wage. Alternate locations include: Dallas, Irving, and Coppell, Texas; and Atlanta, Georgia.

Based on the projected capital investment of $759,000 in new real property, Confidential Project: Meridian will generate $50,552 in new Miami-Dade County Property Taxes over a 3 year period. Of this amount, $37,630 represents new tax generation that will be committed to Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Libraries, the Fire Department, etc. The balance of $12,922 in new Miami-Dade County Property Taxes will be committed to the Miami-Dade County General Fund.

Based on the projected job creation of 75 new jobs with an average salary of $90,000 in 3 years, Confidential Project: Meridian will generate $44,213,120 in direct and indirect wages over a 6 year period.

Recommendation

The enclosed QTI application package requests a maximum of $105,000 (20% of total incentive) to be paid by the County over a period of six years.

Of Miami-Dade County's $105,000 contribution to the QTI, a total of $12,922 can be derived from the Miami-Dade County General Fund, resulting in total cost-benefit ratio of 1:0.12. Therefore, Miami-Dade County must commit to contribute an additional $92,078 over a period of six years.

This is a performance-based incentive. No funds will be provided to the Company until they meet all program and job creation requirements. The incentive that is provided is not a cash grant; it is an after-the-fact, performance-based refund.

INCENTIVE PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Confidential Project: Meridian

Project Summary:	
Project Name	Confidential Project: Meridian
New Jobs	75
Average Salary	$90,000
New Capital Investment	$759,000
New Square Footage	8,200
QTI Breakdown:	
Miami-Dade County Incremental Tax Revenue	$12,922
QTI Miami-Dade County Match (20%)	$105,000
Net Revenue Benefit to Miami-Dade	-$92,078
Total Cost-Benefit Ratio	1:0.12

THE BEACON COUNCIL ECONOMIC IMPACT MODEL - **ASSUMPTIONS**

Project Meridian

Employment Assumptions

New Direct Permanent Jobs

Year 1	25
Year 2	50
Year 3	75
Year 4	75
Year 5	75
Year 6	75

Incremental Multiplier 0.40

* For every 100 direct jobs, 40 indirect jobs will be created. Total multiplier effect is 1.40

Annual Income Assumptions

Yearly Salary, Direct Permanent Job	$90,000
Indirect Job Salary	$45,000
Inflation	103%

Capital Investment

	Total Cap. Inv.
Y1 Value	$552,207
Y2 Value	$503,273
Y3 Value	$465,374
Y4 Value	$436,255
Y5 Value	$414,125
Y6 Value	$397,561

Property/Real Estate Taxes

Mill Rate, Less Dade's Revenue	0.01359
Miami-Dade's Revenue Mill Rate	0.00467
Miami-Dade's Total Mill Rate	0.01826
Assessment Value of Real Property (81.6%)	0.816

	Realty Prop.	Equip.
Y1	$292,944	$259,263
Y2	$297,338	$205,935
Y3	$301,798	$163,576
Y4	$306,325	$129,930
Y5	$310,920	$103,205
Y6	$315,584	$81,977

Sales Tax Rates

Calculation: Income Available For Sales Tax

Income Devoted to:	
Federal Income Tax Liability , 20%	0.80
Housing, Insurance, Real Estate Taxes, 25%	0.75
Savings, Life Insurance, 10%	0.90
Food, Drugs, Other Non-Tax Items, 25 %	0.75

Sales Tax Rates

Florida Sales Tax	6.00%
Miami-Dade County Sales Tax	0.00%
Total Sales Tax	6.00%

Investment	$359,000	$400,000
Depreciated		$326,400

Equipment Depreciation 0.20569

THE BEACON COUNCIL ECONOMIC IMPACT MODEL

Project Meridian

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	TOTAL
EMPLOYMENT							
Total Direct Jobs	25	50	75	75	75	75	
Indirect Employment	10	20	30	30	30	30	
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	35	70	105	105	105	105	
INCOME ($1,000)							
WAGES & SALARY							
Total Direct Wages	$2,250.0	$4,635.0	$7,161.1	$7,375.9	$7,597.2	$7,825.1	$36,844.3
Total Indirect Wages	$450.0	$927.0	$1,432.2	$1,475.2	$1,519.4	$1,565.0	$7,368.9
TOTAL WAGES & SALARIES	$2,700.0	$5,562.0	$8,593.3	$8,851.1	$9,116.6	$9,390.1	$44,213.1
TOTAL INCOME	$2,700.0	$5,562.0	$8,593.3	$8,851.1	$9,116.6	$9,390.1	$44,213.1
INCREMENTAL PROPERTY TAXES ($1,000)							
Building & Equipment Taxes							
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES	$10.1	$9.2	$8.5	$8.0	$7.6	$7.3	$50.6
MIAMI-DADE PROPERTY TAXES	$2.6	$2.3	$2.2	$2.0	$1.9	$1.9	$12.9
SALES TAXES ($1,000)							
Available Income	$2,700.0	$5,562.0	$8,593.3	$8,851.1	$9,116.6	$9,390.1	$44,213.1
Less Federal Income Tax	$2,160.0	$4,449.6	$6,874.6	$7,080.9	$7,293.3	$7,512.1	$35,370.5
Less Hous, Ins, Prop Tax	$1,620.0	$3,337.2	$5,156.0	$5,310.7	$5,470.0	$5,634.1	$26,527.9
Less Savings, Life Insur.	$1,458.0	$3,003.5	$4,640.4	$4,779.6	$4,923.0	$5,070.7	$23,875.1
Less Food, Drugs, Other Non-Tax	$1,093.5	$2,252.6	$3,480.3	$3,584.7	$3,692.2	$3,803.0	$17,906.3
Avail. Income For Sales Tax	$1,093.5	$2,252.6	$3,480.3	$3,584.7	$3,692.2	$3,803.0	$17,906.3
State Sales Tax Realized	$65.6	$135.2	$208.8	$215.1	$221.5	$228.2	$1,074.4
Local Sales Tax Realized	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
TOTAL SALES TAXES ($1,000)	$65.6	$135.2	$208.8	$215.1	$221.5	$228.2	$1,074.4
TOTAL MIAMI-DADE PROPERTY & SALES TAXES ($1,000)	$2.6	$2.3	$2.2	$2.0	$1.9	$1.9	$12.9
TOTAL PROPERTY & SALES TAXES ($1,000)	$75.7	$144.3	$217.3	$223.0	$229.1	$235.4	$1,124.9

SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project Meridian

Totals represent what Miami-Dade County would potentially gain over a projected six year period if the business expands in Miami- Dade County.

Employment	
Direct Employment	75
Indirect Employment	30
Total Employment Gain	**105**
Income from Wages	
Direct Employment	$36,844,267
Indirect Employment	$7,368,853
Total Income Gain	**$44,213,120**
Revenue to Miami-Dade County	
Total Property Taxes	**$12,922**
Total Local Sales Taxes	**$0**
Total Tax Revenue Gain	**$12,922**
Total Miami-Dade County (20%) QTI Match	**$105,000**
Miami-Dade County Net Revenue Benefit	**($92,078)**

INCENTIVE PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

Project Meridian

1. Enterprise Zone:	No
2. Number of New Jobs Projected:	75
3. Average Salary per Job:	$90,000
4. New Capital Investment:	$759,000
5. New Square Footage:	TDB
6. Per Job Incentive:	$7,000

QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND (QTI) BASED UPON THE CREATION OF

75 New Jobs Over 3 Years

TOTAL QTI TAX REFUND

1. State of Florida Portion (80%)	$420,000
2. Miami-Dade County Match (20%)	$105,000
Total QTI Tax Refund Proposal	$525,000

RETURN ON INCENTIVE INVESTMENT (ROII)

1. Miami-Dade County Incremental General Tax Revenue*	$12,922	
2. Total Miami-Dade County (20%) QTI Match	$105,000	$17,500
3. Miami-Dade County Net Revenue Benefit	($92,078)	
Total ROII Gain/Loss/Breakeven	1: 0.12	
1. Miami-Dade County Total Property Tax Revenue	$50,552	
2. Total Miami-Dade County (20%) QTI Match	$105,000	$17,500
3. Miami-Dade County Total Net Revenue Benefit	($54,448)	
Total ROII Gain/Loss/Breakeven	1: 0.48	

* See Economic Impact Model

APPLICATION*

Private Companies

1. SIGNATURE

The undersigned person hereby affirms that he or she has been duly authorized and empowered to verify, execute and deliver this Application, that he or she will read this Application (including all attachments hereto) and he or she has knowledge of all of the facts stated herein, and that this Application, and all information submitted in connection herewith, shall be complete and accurate and shall contain no misstatements, misrepresentations, or omissions of material facts, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief.

_____

Signature Date

Name

Title

Company

2. BUSINESS INFORMATION

A. Legal name of the Applicant:

B. Please provide contact information for the primary contact at the Applicant.

Name *Title*

Telephone No. *Email Address*

Street Address

City *State* *Zip Code* *Country*

C. Name of Ultimate Parent Company (if applicable):

City State/Province Country

* For an explanation of certain capitalized terms used in this Application, please see Appendix 1.

D. List each **Principal Executive Officer, director (or any person who performs a similar function regardless of title**, e.g., a manager of a limited liability company or a general partner of a limited partnership) of **the Applicant** and **the Ultimate Parent Company** (if applicable), and **any person or entity that Controls the Applicant**. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Name[1] *First, Middle Initial, Last*	**Title or Position**[2]	**Percent of Ownership if Greater than 50%**[3]
	Chief Executive Officer	
	President (if different than CEO)	
	Chief Operating Officer	
	Chief Financial Officer	
	Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel	
	Director (i.e., member of the board of directors if a corp.) or Manager (i.e., member of the board of managers if an LLC)	
	Director (i.e., member of the board of directors if a corp.) or Manager (i.e., member of the board of managers if an LLC)	
	Director (i.e., member of the board of directors if a corp.) or Manager (i.e., member of the board of managers if an LLC)	
	Equity Owner (if greater than 50%)	

E. Applicant's Federal Employer Identification Number:
(Please complete either the substitute W-9 Form at the end of this application or attach a completed IRS Form W-9.)

F. Applicant's Reemployment Assistance Number (Formerly Unemployment #)

G. Applicant's Florida Sales Tax Registration Number (if applicable):

H. Last day of Applicant's fiscal year (e.g., December 31, September 30, etc.): December 31

I. Total number of employees (on a Full-Time Equivalent Job Basis) who are currently employed by the Ultimate Parent Company and its Subsidiaries (including the Applicant) in Florida: 160

[1] If not applicable, write "N/A".
[2] For example, chief executive officer, director, stockholders that directly or indirectly own more than 50% of the capital stock or other equity interests of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company, etc.
[3] This should **only be included** if the individual directly or indirectly **owns more than 50%** of the capital stock or other equity interests of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company.

J. Total number of employees (on a Full-Time Equivalent Job Basis) who are currently employed by the Ultimate Parent Company and its Subsidiaries (including the Applicant) worldwide: 95,000

K. What type of legal entity is the applicant?

C-Corporation	☒	S-Corporation	☐
Limited Liability Company	☐	Partnership	☐

L. Is it presently anticipated that the Applicant will have corporate income tax liability in Florida?[4]

Yes ☒ No ☐

M. Is the applicant a small business (i.e., is the aggregate net worth of the Applicant, the Ultimate Parent Company and its Subsidiaries (other than the Applicant) **less than** $5,000,000 **or** does the Applicant have a Small Business Administration 8(a) certification)?

Yes ☐ No ☒

3. PROJECT OVERVIEW

A. Which of the following best describes the Applicant:

☐ New business to Florida
☒ Existing Florida business creating and/or retaining jobs[5]

B. How many employees of the Applicant, the Ultimate Parent Company and its Subsidiaries (other than the Applicant) will be transferred from other Florida locations in connection with the Project (on a Full-Time Equivalent Job Basis) , please indicate the number of employees being transferred and from which Florida county?
5 positions from Miami-Dade County

C. Please describe the Project, including the specific business activity(ies) and functions of the Project:
The project involves the re-location of the Regional Hemisphere Headquarters Office (RHO) that includes all senior executives for the RHO that support the air, ocean, warehousing, brokerage and contract logistics operations for the geography for North, South, Central America and the Caribbean. The RHO is currently located in New York (Long Island).

Project Meridian is a division that focuses on logistics. The company, created by reorganization and rebranding of parent company subsidiaries, comprises a logistics division encompassing air, land, and sea freight. Since December 2007, Project Meridian has been the freight logistics subsidiary of the parent company. Project Meridian combines all transport and logistics activities of the parent company (rail and logistics) employing over 95,000 staff spread across about 2,000 locations in about 140 countries and is currently the largest freight operator.

[4] In most cases, limited liability companies, S corporations, and partnerships will not have corporate income tax liability.
[5] A QTI Tax Refund award cannot be granted for existing Florida jobs.

D. What is the anticipated commencement date of the Project? By the end of 2016

E. Break down of the Project's primary business activity(ies)/job functions and the corresponding wages:

Applicant's Activities	6 Digit NAICS Code(s)	Project Function (total = 100%)	Average Annualized Wage ($)
Headquarters	551144	100%	$90,000+

F. Please provide the address of the proposed permanent location of the Project:
N/A – No address at this time
Street Address

City *State* *Zip Code*

G. Will the Project be located in a current or proposed Brownfield Area?
Yes ☐ No ☒
If Yes, does the proposed site have a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement in place or are you pursuing one?
Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, identify the site number?
Will the Project be located in a designated Rural Area of Opportunity?
Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, which area?

Will the Project be located in an Urban area?[6]
Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, describe?

H. Which of the following best describes the location of the Project:

☒ Regional headquarters — If it is a regional headquarters, what region? Region Office Headquarters for North, South, Central America and the Caribbean

☐ National headquarters
☐ International headquarters
☐ Not applicable

I. Please provide an estimate of the percentage of goods or services from the Project that will be sold or delivered to customers outside of Florida:
0% Explain, if necessary: As a holding company/headquarters, the Project Meridian will not be selling or delivering goods/services to customers

[6] An Urban area may include a Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), Urban Job Tax Credit eligible area, Federal Empowerment Zone, and an Urban Revitalization Area.

4. JOB AND WAGE OVERVIEW

A. How many new-to-Florida Full-Time Equivalent Jobs are projected to be created as part of the Project? 75 FT

B. If the Applicant operates in Florida, how many of the Applicant's Full-Time Equivalent Jobs in Florida that would have otherwise moved to another state are projected to be retained as part of the Project? All would be retained

C. What is the projected annualized average wage (excluding benefits) of the retained Full-Time Equivalent Jobs in Florida listed in Section 4(B) above (if any)?[7] $40K min annual avg

D. What is the projected annualized average wage (excluding benefits) of the new Full-Time Equivalent Jobs Florida jobs created as part of the Project?[8] $90K annual min avg

E. What is the projected annualized average cost to the Applicant of benefits for each Full-Time Equivalent Job created and retained as part of the Project? 28% employer cost of base salary

F. Please list the benefits that are included in the above calculation (*e.g.*, health insurance, matching 401(k) contributions, etc.)?
Health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, life insurance and 401K matching

G. Does the applicant contract with a third-party company to provide payroll services? Yes ☒ No ☐

5. CAPITAL INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

A. Describe the capital investment in connection with the Project in real and personal property (Examples: construction of new facility; remodeling of facility; upgrading, replacing, or buying new equipment.):
The capital investment for the project of RHO re-location involves the leasehold improvement (LHI) for the build-out of leased office space for the Regional Headquarter Offices, the purchase of furniture and IT related equipment (servers, PCs, printers and other IT related hardware).

B. Identify whether the Project will be located in a/an:
- ☒ Leased space with renovations or build out
- ☐ Newly constructed building(s) on newly acquired land
- ☐ Newly constructed building(s) on previously acquired land
- ☐ Newly acquired existing building(s) with renovations
- ☐ Addition to previously acquired existing building(s)
- ☐ Other (please describe in 5A above)

C. List the projected capital investment to be made in Florida in connection with the Project (by type and year):

Calendar Year :	2017	2018	2019			Total
Land or Building Purchase	$0	$0	$0	$	$	$0
Construction / Renovations	$50,000	$249,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	$359,000
Manufacturing Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$	$	$0
R&D Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$	$	$0

[7] All cash payments to the employees (other than reimbursements of business expenses) should be included.
[8] All cash payments to the employees (other than reimbursements of business expenses) should be included.

Other Equipment (computer equipment, office furniture, etc.)	$100,000	$300,000	$0	$0	$0	$400,000
Total Capital Investment	$150,000	$549,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	$759,000

D. List the projected capital investment to be made **outside** of Florida, for equipment that will be located at the Project location in connection with the Project (by type and year):

Calendar Year :	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Manufacturing Equipment	$	$	$	$	$	$
R&D Equipment	$	$	$	$	$	$
Other Equipment (computer equipment, office furniture, etc)	$	$	$	$	$	$
Total Capital Investment	$	$	$	$	$	$

E. What is the estimated square footage of the new or expanded facility? 8,200

6. COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

A. What role will the incentive(s) play in the Applicant's decision to locate the Project in Florida?
The potential incentives would assist in defraying some of the significant costs / expenses that would be incurred on the build-out, re-location of personnel of a Regional Headquarters Office (RHO) start-up of this magnitude.

B. What other states or countries (**including the cities**) is the Applicant considering for the Project?
Dallas, Irving, Coppell (Texas); Atlanta (Georgia)

C. What advantages or incentives offered by these locations does the Applicant consider important in its decision?
The incentive programs, at the county and state-level in Texas, are competitive and very pro-business focused to attract new investment, whether the incentives are county tax abatements or incentives from the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF).

D. What advantages or disadvantages offered by the proposed Florida location does the Applicant consider important in its decision?
The tri-continent (North America, South America and Europe) accessibility is a definite advantage. The total cost-of-living in Miami-Dade County (Housing, insurance, etc.) is a definite disadvantage in comparison to Texas.

E. Indicate any additional internal or external competitive issues impacting the Applicant's decision regarding the Project's location?
None

7. DISCLOSURE

A. In the past 10 years, has (1) the Applicant, the Ultimate Parent Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (2) any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company or (3) any entity that any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company Controls or Controlled been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere ("no contest") in a domestic, foreign or military court to any Felony or Misdemeanor involving fraud,

false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery or a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, explain? We are answering "no" to the best of our knowledge because the question captures hundreds of entities across the globe. With respect to Applicant and companies affiliated with Applicant in the United States, the answer is definitively "no."

B. Is (1) the Applicant, the Ultimate Parent Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or (2) any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company or (3) any entity that any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company Controls (a) the subject of a pending criminal prosecution or governmental enforcement action in any jurisdiction; (b) to the best of the Applicant's knowledge after due inquiry, the subject of any criminal, civil, or regulatory investigation by any law enforcement authority in the State of Florida, or any regulatory body in the State of Florida; or (c) subject to any unsatisfied tax liens in Florida or judgment liens in any jurisdiction in the U.S.?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, explain? We answer to the best of our knowledge, noting that the question captures hundreds of entities across the globe. With respect to (a), yes. Applicant's immediate parent is handling an investigation concerning a former company in Russia and the possibility that personnel formerly associated with that company in Russia authorized improper payments to customs officials in Russia to facilitate the movement of goods into Russia. The investigation is ongoing and further details are not available at this time. With respect to (b), no. With respect to (c), no.

C. In the past 5 years, has (1) the Applicant, the Ultimate Parent Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (2) any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company or (3) any entity that any Principal Executive Officer of the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent Company Controls or Controlled (a) been named as a DEFENDANT in any civil litigation or arbitration in any jurisdiction, (b) had an application for license, or a license or its equivalent, to practice any profession or occupation denied, suspended or revoked in any jurisdiction, or (c) been subject to a bankruptcy or insolvency petition in any jurisdiction?

Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, explain? With respect to (a), the Project Meridian group of companies operates in more than 100 countries and in some 2,000 locations. The company is named in litigation from time to time for a variety of reasons associated with business operations. The company does not comment on litigation matters as a matter of policy. The answer for Applicant is "no," and Applicant is aware of no litigation that would have any

impact whatsoever on its operations in Florida. With respect to (b) and (c), "no."

8. CONFIDENTIALITY

In accordance with Section 288.075 of the Florida Statutes, the Applicant may request that Enterprise Florida, Inc. and the Department of Economic Opportunity maintain the confidentiality of all information regarding the Project (including information contained in this application) for the lesser of a 12 month period after the date of this application (which may be extended for an additional 12 months upon request), 6 months after the issuance of the final project order approving the project or until the information is otherwise disclosed.

Please indicate whether the Applicant is requesting confidential treatment of the Project in accordance with Section 288.075 of the Florida Statutes. (Does not apply to SDST sales tax exemption applicants.)

☒ Yes ☐ No

*****PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTACH THE PROPER INCENTIVE ATTACHMENT SHEET(S).*****

APPENDIX 1

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

The following terms used in this Application have the meanings set forth below:

AFFILIATE – An entity that is controlled, directly or indirectly, by the ultimate parent entity of such person.

APPLICANT – The entity(ies) that will satisfy all job creation and capital investment requirements under the incentive agreement with the Department and which are applying on or amending this Application.

BROWNFIELD Site with a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement – Has the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 288.107 of the Florida Statutes.

CONTROL – The power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a company, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. Any person or entity that (i) is a director, general partner or officer exercising executive responsibility (or having similar status or functions); (ii) directly or indirectly has the right to vote 50% or more of a class of a voting security or has the power to sell or direct the sale of 50% or more of a class of voting securities; or (iii) in the case of a partnership, has the right to receive upon dissolution, or has contributed, 50% or more of the capital, is presumed to control that company.

DEPARTMENT – The Department of Economic Opportunity.

FELONY – For jurisdictions that do not differentiate between a felony and a misdemeanor, a felony is an offense punishable by a sentence of at least one year imprisonment and/or a fine of at least $1,000. The term also includes a general court martial.

FOUND – Includes adverse final actions, including consent decrees in which the respondent has neither admitted nor denied the findings, but does not include agreements, deficiency letters, examination reports, memoranda of understanding, letters of caution, admonishments, and similar informal resolutions of matters.

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT JOB – One employee or two or more employees (without duplication) who perform at least 35 hours of paid work per week.

JOBS – Has the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 288.106 of the Florida Statutes.

MISDEMEANOR – For jurisdictions that do not differentiate between a felony and a misdemeanor, a misdemeanor is an offense punishable by a sentence of less than one year imprisonment and/or a fine of less than $1,000. The term also includes a special court martial.

NAICS – Those classifications contained in the North American Industry Classification System, as published in 2012 by the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, and updated from time to time.

ORDER – A written directive issued pursuant to statutory authority and procedures, including orders of denial, suspension, or revocation; does not include special stipulations, undertakings or agreements relating to payments, limitations on activity or other restrictions unless they are included in an order.

PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER – With respect to any entity, such entity's chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operations officer or any person who performs similar functions regardless of title.

PROJECT – Has the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 288.106 of the Florida Statutes.

RURAL AREA OF OPPORTUNITY – Has the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 288.0656 of the Florida Statutes.

SUBSIDIARY – An entity that is directly or indirectly controlled by the Applicant or the Ultimate Parent.

ULTIMATE PARENT – An entity that directly or indirectly controls the Applicant, which is not directly or indirectly controlled by any other entity.

Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund
Attachment to the General Project Overview

Project Meridian

FOR EFI USE ONLY		
Date Received	Date Revised	Date Completed
EFI Project Number		

Must be a separate business unit or reporting unit of a business unit that is or will be registered with the State of Florida for unemployment compensation purposes.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This application must be filed and the incentive approved ***prior*** to making the decision to expand an existing Florida business unit or to locate a new business unit in Florida.

*** * *Be sure to submit the General Project Overview and Local Support Resolution[1] following passage by the City / County* * ***

1. PROJECT EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE COMMITMENTS

A. What is the total number of net new full-time equivalent Florida jobs created by the project at the business unit[2]? 75

B. Provide the job creation schedule to which you commit: (Please limit the phases to a maximum of three consecutive years and job creation to no less than ten jobs in the first year).

Phase	Number of net new full-time equivalent Florida jobs created in the business unit	Date by which jobs will be created
I	25	2017
II	25	2018
III	25	2019
Total	75	

C. For the purposes of certification, agreement, and claim review, indicate the average wage and corresponding threshold (percentage) to which you commit:
Check the relevant box (only one) and fill in the first field (wage commitment) and second field (county, state, or MSA used).

☐ $_____, which is at least 115% of the average wage in _____.

☐ $_____, which is at least 150% of the average wage in _____.

☒ $90,000, which is at least 200% of the average wage in Florida.

2. LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A. Identify the local government(s) anticipated to provide local financial support[3]:
Miami-Dade County

B. Indicate the date(s) the QTI support resolution(s) is / are anticipated to be passed by the local government:

[1] Submit the resolution adopted by the local governing body recommending the applicant be approved as a QTI Business unit and indicating the amount of local financial support that has been committed. Resolution should clearly indicate waivers requested and justification for such waivers.
[2] Must be a minimum of 10 new jobs and a 10-percent increase in current business unit employment (if an existing Florida business).
[3] The total QTI award may not exceed five times the local financial support provided by the community. If the community has requested a local financial support waiver or the support is provided in the form of ad valorem tax abatement, the QTI award will be reduced by this amount.

Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund
Attachment to the General Project Overview

3. SIGNATURES

Signature of Individual Completing this Attachment
(If different from General Project Overview)

Date

Address (if different)

Phone Number (if different)

Signature (Authorized Company Officer) REQUIRED

Date

Name and Title of Authorized Officer

4. KEY QTI PROGRAM INFORMATION

- The tax refund claim form will be due by January 31st each year for the number of jobs on December 31st of the previous calendar year. Tax refunds paid per state fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) may not exceed 25 percent of the total tax refund award associated with the phase(s) scheduled.
- The total award will be equal to $3,000 ($6,000 in Enterprise Zones or Rural Counties) times the number of jobs reported in item 1A. Additional per job bonuses may be available; however, the QTI award may not exceed five times the local financial support paid by the community.
  - $1,000 per job if the average annual wage is at least 150% of the area's average; or $2,000 per job if the average annual wage is at least 200%.
  - $2,000 per job if the business falls within a designated high impact sector OR if the business increases exports of its goods through a seaport of airport in the state by at least 10 percent in value or tonnage in each year of receiving a QTI refund.
  - $2,500 per job if the project locates in a designated Brownfield area (Brownfield Bonus).
  - $1,000 per job if the local financial support is equal to the base QTI award.
- If in any year the applicant does not achieve the job creation schedule outlined in item 1C, but achieves at least 80% of the required net new jobs, the company will receive a pro-rated refund less a 5% penalty of the scheduled award amount for that year. **If job creation falls below 80% of the required jobs, the company will not receive a refund and will be terminated from the program. Similarly, if the average wage falls below the wage committed to in 1C, the company will not receive a refund and will be terminated from the program.**
- For an expanding Florida business unit:
  - Existing number of full-time equivalent Florida jobs must be maintained for the duration of the QTI agreement.
  - The average wage commitment should include wages paid for only the net new to Florida jobs, as shown on the unit's UCT-6 form. The applicant will be required to establish a tracking mechanism to distinguish between existing versus new jobs and employees filling those jobs. Contact Enterprise Florida for more information.
- QTI eligible jobs are those that are physically located within the State of Florida and located at the facility listed as the proposed location address in question 2G of the General Project Overview or subsequent QTI contract with the State of Florida. If any jobs will not be physically located at the proposed location address, contact Enterprise Florida to discuss the situation. Jobs that are paid out of the proposed location address facility but are not located at that facility or in the State of Florida are not considered net new jobs for QTI purposes.
- A qualified target industry business that fraudulently claims a refund under *288.106(2), Florida Statutes*:
  - Is liable for repayment of the refund to the account, plus a mandatory penalty in the amount of 200 percent of the tax refund which shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
  - Is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund: *Section 288.106, Florida Statutes*.