

Memorandum



Date: August 8, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa and Members
Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: 2003 Consent Order 03-1376(A): State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection vs. Miami-Dade County

I am pleased to advise that effective July 29, 2013, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection notified the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) that all of the requirements of the Consent Order referenced above have been satisfied and is thereby closing the file on the case (see attached). In fact, WASD has completed its regulatory obligations nine months ahead of schedule, about \$100 million under budget, and without incurring any penalties.

This consent order was entered into by the County on July 22, 2003, to address concerns that treated effluent discharged to disposal wells at the South District Wastewater Treatment Plant could be migrating to the upper Floridian Aquifer above the disposal zone. To resolve this issue, the County agreed to construct facilities to provide additional treatment of the effluent prior to disposal. This treatment is known as High Level Disinfection and involves additional filtration and chlorination of the effluent prior to disposal. The additional treatment also makes the effluent available for various types of reuse, including the 90 million gallons per day of cooling water reuse that Florida Power and Light has agreed to utilize at Turkey Point. This is the largest single construction project ever undertaken by WASD, involving 14 separate construction contracts. The engineer's estimate for all of the individual projects totaled up to \$628 million, and the current forecast for completing all of the work is \$528 million. Through careful project management, only one change order was needed during the five years of construction, and that was a deductive change order that actually lowered project costs. WASD was able to secure about \$115 million in State Revolving Loan Funds, significantly reducing the financing costs of the project.

Overall, this is an excellent example of working constructively with the regulatory agencies, private sector design and construction firms, the surrounding cities and neighborhoods, and our own support team to deliver a very large scale set of projects cost-effectively. I know some of you have visited the site during the course of construction, and Director John W. Renfrow will be happy to provide a tour of these impressive facilities now that they are in operation and the final site work is nearing completion.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Director John W. Renfrow, P.E. at 786-552-8086 or me directly at 305-375-1880.

Attachment

c: R. A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Alina T. Hudak, Deputy Mayor
Ed Marquez, Deputy Mayor
John W. Renfrow, P.E., Director, Water and Sewer Department
Jennifer Moon, Director, Office of Management and Budget



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICE
400 N. CONGRESS AVENUE, 3RD FLOOR
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401
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RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

HERSCHEL T. VINYARD JR.
SECRETARY

July 29, 2013

ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE

RenfrJ@miamidade.gov

Mr. John W. Renfrow, P.E., Director
Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department
3071 SW 38th Avenue P.O. Box 330316
Miami, FL 33233-0316

DW – Miami-Dade County
Consent Order Number: OGC 03-1376
DEP Permit Number: FLA042137

RE: Deactivation of OGC Case # 03-1376, State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection vs. Miami-Dade County

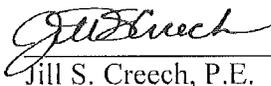
Dear Mr. Renfrow:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) received the final documentation from Miami-Dade County on March 28, 2013, stating that the newly constructed filters will be capable of treating the designated flows to the high level disinfection (HLD) standards.

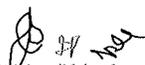
At this time, the Department finds that all requirements referenced in the Consent Order (CO), have been satisfied. The Department is, therefore, deactivating the case pertaining only to those issues addressed in the CO.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact **Michael Hambor**, **Environmental Manager** of this office at **561/681-6698** or at Michael.Hambor@dep.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,



Jill S. Creech, P.E.
District Director
Southeast District


JSC/jks/jl/mh

Mr. John W. Renfrow, P.E., Director

Page 2 of 2

July 29, 2013

cc: Vicente Arrebola, MDWASD
Robert E. Fergen, MDWASD,
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Rashid Z. Istambouli, MDERER,
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