THANK YOU, LESTER, FOR THAT INTRODUCTION, AND FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THIS PROJECT AS DIRECTOR OF THE MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT.

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING US THIS MORNING.

COMMISSIONER MOSS, THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE AND FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE IN SUPPORT OF THIS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT -- WHICH IS THE LARGEST IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S HISTORY.

I'M PLEASED TO JOIN YOU THIS MORNING FOR THE GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE 36-INCH WATERLINE PROJECT.

THIS PROJECT WILL RESULT IN THE UPGRADING OF THOUSANDS OF MILES OF PIPES, PUMP STATIONS AND WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS THAT PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES.

IN ADDITION, THE ENTIRE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IS PROJECTED TO CREATE APPROXIMATELY 16,470 NEW JOBS OVER THE NEXT 15 YEARS, IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM, AND GENERATE AN ESTIMATED \$24.9 BILLION IN ECONOMIC OUTPUT.

IN OTHER WORDS, OUR WORK IS NOT ONLY NECESSARY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MIAMI-DADE RESIDENTS; IT'S ALSO A JOB-CREATING PROJECT.

AS OUR COUNTY CONTINUES TO GROW, THE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IS CRITICAL. THE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT BRINGS WATER TO AND FROM HOMES AND HANDLES WASTEWATER FLOWS FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IS ESSENTIAL TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND ECONOMIC VITALITY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

THE INSTALLATION OF THIS 36-INCH WATER TRANSMISSION LINE WILL PROVIDE CONTINUED POSITIVE FINANCIAL IMPACT FOR THE COMMUNITY -- JUST LIKE IT PROVIDES INCREASED SERVICE CAPACITY FOR BUSINESSES AND IMPROVED WATER QUALITY FOR RESIDENTS.

WE'RE INVESTING AT LEAST \$10 BILLION IN OUR COUNTY'S WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENSURE THAT THE MIAMI-

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DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT IS ABLE TO CONTINUE PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES.

OUR MISSION IS TO UPGRADE OUR WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART, SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES TO WHAT HAS SUPPORTED OUR COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN 80 YEARS.

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES, SUCH AS THE TRANSMISSION LINE WE'RE BREAKING GROUND ON THIS MORNING, PROVIDE BASIC SERVICES THAT KEEP OUR COMMUNITY MOVING FORWARD. THEY IMPROVE WATER PRESSURE TO YOUR HOMES, INCREASE FIRE-SUPPRESSION CAPABILITIES AND DECREASE THE CHANCES FOR SERVICE-DELIVERY INTERRUPTIONS.

WE'RE COMMITTED TO ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR EVERY MIAMI-DADE RESIDENT BY INVESTING IN OUR WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS --WHO WILL LOOK BACK AND ASK WHAT WE DID TO HELP IMPROVE THEIR LIVES.

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ONCE AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT FOR THE WORK THE EMPLOYEES HAVE DONE IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S GROUNDBREAKING, AND THE WORK THEY WILL DO IN THE FUTURE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THANK YOU ALL AGAIN FOR COMING TODAY!

MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY!

