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**PROJECT:** Miami Dade Water and Sewer Department  
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Rehydration Pilot Project

**SUBJECT:** Stakeholder Meeting

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, June 16, 2009, 2:00 pm

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**Attendees:**

Lynette Cardoch, MWH PM

Debbie Swain, MSA PM

Sangeeta Dhulashia, MWH

Luis Casado, MWH

Mark Lewis, Biscayne National Park (BNP)

Susan Markley DERM

Jack Long, FDEP

Dewey Worth, SFWMD

Jim Ferguson, WASD PM

Doug Yoder, WASD

Robert Ortiz, Brown and Caldwell PM

John Chorlog, WASD

Lucy Perez, SFWMD

John Schaffer, SFWMD (By Telephone)

Patrick Pitts, FWS

This meeting is the first stakeholder gathering for the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Rehydration Pilot Project (BBCWRPP). This meeting was publically noticed on the county calendar and informational emails were sent to the agencies listed in the Water Use Permit, Limiting Condition #43 (FDEP, SFWMD, and BNP)

MWH presented the status of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Rehydration Pilot Project (BBCWRPP). The presentation (attached) reviewed the regulatory driver, the anticipated timelines, and the current tasks being completed. These include the three areas of engineering preliminary designs and process treatment trains, updates to ecological plans, and the formation of stakeholder groups.

As the presentation progressed, there were several discussions points:

- Clarifications on how BBCWRPP ties into CERP BBCW project. Dr. Markley indicated that the connection to the CERP project is fundamentally unresolved. While the County agreed in concept and will build the plant and operate it, the connection to the other CERP projects is still undefined. The County is only doing the first, very important, step. Mr. Pitts indicated that if there was water with adequate water quality, CERP would be interested in using it. Dr. Yoder clarified that the expectation is that this project be rolled into CERP. Mr. Worth indicated it was originally anticipated Miami-Dade would be the "local sponsor". The US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) will not move forward without a local sponsor. WASD has previously communicated with the ACOE. As treatment processes continue to move forward, it is anticipated a clearer direction will emerge as determinations on water quality are made.



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- Communications. The current BBCWRPP web site will be used to have materials publically available. If comments are received, they will be posted whenever practicable. Stakeholder comments will be addressed at the public meetings.  
[http://www.miamidade.gov/wasd/water\\_wetlands.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/wasd/water_wetlands.asp)
- Proposed OFW criteria (slide 24)—Dr. Markley indicated that the 2004 proposed targets shown on the MWH slide stemmed from a multi-agency discussion from the CERP PDT as to what could potentially constitute degradation of Biscayne Bay. If the effluent is applied upstream, not directly into an OFW, the targets shown previously in the slide for end-of-pipe targets might not need to be met.
- Maps—Additional maps showing the context of the plant to the larger BBCW requested. Also, for sampling sites, provide a more complete map of the regional sites, not just the site directly to the east.
- Sampling locations—the validity of sampling sites was discussed. The sites currently displayed on the draft monitoring map were chosen because of the anticipated flowway on the region. It is also directly east of the proposed constructed wetland site; there is still a possibility of its construction. With the produced water being better quality than rainfall, what exactly is the monitoring supposed to accomplish? Perhaps it is best to backtrack from when the water is anticipated to be placed in the wetlands and determine the timeline necessary for background sampling. Other than microconstituents that may be present in the water, we would the sampling detect?
- FIU component—FIU-SERC's ability to address nutrient enrichment and trophic level interactions needs to be confirmed.
- Peer Review—it is recommended that the peer review panel, that is anticipated to be convened in fall 2009, review the overall ecological plan, not just the aquatic toxicity plan. They may be better suited to provide overall project guidance too.
- Microconstituents—there is testing being done by the USGS and TestAmerica on the South District WWTP. The results are not going to be available before December 2009. Would be best to target constituents already determined to be present. Will need to get results. May want to consider doing cellular analyses on test organisms to see impacts of microconstituents.



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- Schedule—there was a discussion that schedule is tight and pilot testing is scheduled to start in early 2010. This will require an expedited approach to the pilot testing plant construction and permitting.

Action Items:

1. Post additional items to BBCWRPP website
  - a. Links of CERP maps
  - b. Technical memos
  - c. Draft ecological monitoring plan
2. Send notices to meeting participants when new materials are posted.
3. Set next meeting date