



### **VIA ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE**

December 11, 2017

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File No: 8.DC.52 & 77

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section Environment and Natural Resources Division

U.S. Department of Justice

P.O. Box 7611
Ben Franklin Station

Washington, D.C. 20044-7611 RE: DOJ No. 90-5-1-1-4022/1

Tom.Mariani@usdoj.gov

Chief, Clean Water Enforcement Branch

Water Protection Division

Attn: Brad Ammons

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Ammons.Brad@epa.gov

Rachael Amy Kamons
Environmental Enforcement Section

U.S. Department of Justice

P.O. Box 7611

Ben Franklin Station

Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

Rachael.Kamons@usdoj.gov

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Southeast District – West Palm Beach 3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 7210-1

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Attn: Compliance/Enforcement Section

Jason.Andreotta@dep.state.fl.us

RE: Consent Decree (Case: No. 1:12-cv-24400-FAM)

Reference DOJ Case No. 90-5-1-1-4022/1 Section XI, Paragraph 52 – Potential Delay Section XVII, Paragraph 77 – Notices

Delay Notification Letter for Consent Decree Appendix D-2, Capital Improvement Projects

5.11 - Installation of 48-inch FM from Kendall Dr. to the Suction Side of PS#0536

#### Dear Sir/Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Section XI, Paragraph 52 of the above referenced Consent Decree (CD), on November 27, 2017, Miami-Dade County (County) electronically notified United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) of a delay of CD Capital Improvement Project (CIP) 5.11 Installation of 48 inch FM from Kendall Dr. to the Suction Side of PS#0536. Delays have occurred in the execution of this project during its procurement and construction phases.

In accordance with Section XI, Paragraph 52, this notification letter shall further describe and explain the reasons for the delay; the anticipated duration of the delay; all actions taken or to be taken to prevent or

minimize the delay; a schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the effect of the delay; a statement as to whether, in the opinion of the County, such event may cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment.

## Explanation and description of the reasons for the delay

The scope of this project comprises the furnishing and installation of all materials, labor, and equipment necessary to connect an existing 48-inch PCCP FM at SW 117th Avenue to an existing 72-inch PCCP FM. It also includes the installation of plug valves, air release valves, and access manholes and the restoration works at the road and impacted green areas. The purpose of the project is to reduce flow differential and increase flow transfer between PS # 0559 and PS # 0536.

During the pre-construction review, there were some concerns over the constructability of the interconnection due to the location of the force mains, other existing utilities, and the accuracy of the asbuilts available to the designer. To overcome this, an exploratory excavation was deemed necessary to allow a final determination to be made as to the most efficient way to construct the interconnection. This has added time to the contract to allow for this exploratory work to proceed. Concurrently, there were issues during the procurement of a 48" plug valve required for the connection. This is discussed below.

## Actions taken or to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay

The Program Management and Construction Management (PMCM) Team met with the contractor to discuss mitigation efforts and construction schedule changes to reduce the time impacts associated with this late start of contract. The County has initiated negotiations with the contractor with an objective of shortening the construction duration to minimize the delays to the CD compliance date. Based on the outcome of these discussions between the County and Contractor, the County has considered the available options to determine the best course of action to execute this project, while minimizing delays. Actions to be taken to minimize the delay are the following:

- 1. The lead time of the 48" Plug Valve was reduced from 23 weeks to 10 weeks. The Valve is already secured at Contractor's warehouse.
- 2. Plan and execution of exploratory excavation works to assess the condition of existing pipes, dimensions and distances, and to minimize the potential of unforeseen conditions when completing the connection of the pipes.
- 3. Expedited Procurement of the rest of the connection pieces and materials required to complete the works.

### Anticipated duration of the delay

Currently, there is a delay of 8 (eight) calendar days for the contractor to reach substantial completion, extending past the original CD compliance date of May 09, 2018 to May 17, 2018. Although we anticipate that current mitigation actions will help closing the gap between the EPA compliance date and the actual Project completion date, this additional time is necessary for the contractor to reach substantial completion.

# <u>Schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the</u> effect of the delay

The County will continue to take the following steps (in sequence) to prevent or mitigate delay or the effect of the delay:

- 1. Meet with contractor to assess different work scenarios, material sourcing and schedules that will allow early completion of critical path items of work.
- 2. Due to County permit limitations to weekends only, consider extended hours of work to improve schedule delivery of critical items of beneficial use to the force mains operations.
- 3. Meet with contractor to discuss additional work resources on the project to expedite key elements of the work.

## Cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment

The installation of the 48-inch force main is necessary to ensure the collection system's capacity to serve future developments as well as upgrade equipment to maintain the integrity of our system. It is the County's opinion that this delay will not present an immediate endangerment to the public health, welfare, or the environment.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (786) 552-8571.

I certify under penalty of law that this document was prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering such information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Sincerely,

Hardeep Anand, P.E., ENV SP

Deputy Director, Capital Improvement Programs & Regulatory Compliance

ec: Jonathan A. Glogau
Special Counsel
Chief, Complex Litigation
Office of the Attorney General
PL-01, The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

850-414-3817

Jon.Glogau@myfloridalegal.com

> Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District – West Palm Beach 3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 7210-1 West Palm Beach, FL 33406 Attn: Compliance/Enforcement Section <u>Lisa.M.Self@dep.state.fl.us</u> <u>Mike.Bechtold@dep.state.fl.us</u> <u>Sed.wastewater@dep.state.fl.us</u>

Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez Miami-Dade County 111 NW First Street 29<sup>th</sup> Floor Miami, Florida 33128

Lester Sola, Director Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department 3071 SW 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue Miami, Florida 33146

Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor/Director Miami-Dade Regulatory and Economic Resources 111 NW 1st Street. 29th Floor Miami, FL 33128 Josterholt@miamidade.gov

Henry Gillman Assistant County Attorney Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office 111 NW First Street Suite 2810 Miami, Florida 33128

William Bush
Associate Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Bush.William@epa.gov

William A. Weinischke
Senior Trial Attorney
Environmental Enforcement Section
Environment and Natural Resources Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, D.C. 20044
Bill.Weinischke@usdoj.gov

ebc: Hardeep Anand

Antonio Cotarelo

Douglas L. Yoder

Bertha Goldenberg

Josenrique Cueto

Lynnette M. Ramirez

Manuel Moncholi

Ureaka Wyche

Frances G. Morris

Sarah Davis

Sherry Negahban

Richard O'Rourke

Howard Fallon

Robert Fergen

Al Galambos

Dan Edwards

Rolando Roque

Juan Bedoya

Lee N. Hefty (RER-DERM)

Carlos Hernandez (RER-DERM)

Rashid Istambouli (RER-DERM)

David Wood (CD PMCM)

Andrea Suarez Abastida (CD PMCM)

Scott Eckler (CD PMCM)

Abby Diaz (CD PMCM)