



October 1, 2012

Ms. Julie Espy
FL. Department of Environmental Protection
Watershed Assessment Program
2600 Blair Stone Road - Mail Station 3555
Tallahassee, FL, 32399-2400

Sent Via Email to: Julie.Espy@dep.state.fl.us

SUBJECT: City of Tallahassee Submittal of 4e Application for 756F

This correspondence is submitted on behalf of the City of Tallahassee (City) in response to the 2012 draft lists of impaired waters for Cycle 3 of the Group 1 basins. The City is submitting this 4e application for WBID 756F (Lake Lafayette-Upper Segment) for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to consider reassigning the Integrated Assessment Category from 5 to 4e for this waterbody. In response to previous verified listings for WBID 756, the City has been working with DEP and the Department of Transportation (DOT) for several years to take over ownership and responsibility of the Weems Pond Stormwater Management Facility in order to implement the capital improvement project converting the facility to a chemically enhanced treatment system (Upper Lake Lafayette Nutrient Reduction Facility-ULL NRF).

In accordance with a covenant of the tri-party agreement with the three agencies listed above, the City is well underway with this \$6.1 million dollar project and is currently in the process of reviewing construction bids. As described in the 4e application, the construction of this facility will result in treating 82% of a 10,175 acre watershed to levels that will exceed the 36% phosphorus reduction required by the recent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) TMDL for WBID 756F. The Northeast Drainage Ditch (NEDD, WBID 756H) and the Virginia Tributary also known as the Park Avenue Tributary WBID 883B contribute the majority of flow to Upper Lake Lafayette (WBID 756F) through the ULL NRF. The NEDD also has an EPA established TMDL requiring a 63% reduction in fecal coliforms. Implementing the restoration project will also achieve these reductions in excess of those required by the TMDL.

The City believes this restoration project meets the goals and intent of allowing a WBID to be listed in the Integrated Assessment Category 4e. This process allows stakeholders the time needed to implement projects and monitor progress toward achieving pollutant

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load reductions. Upon completion of this project, the treatment efficiency, i.e. pollutant reductions, in this facility will begin immediately. Should DEP not accept this application for moving WBID 756F to Integrated Assessment Category 4e and elect to pursue the proposed assessment category 5, the City requests that DEP address the concerns stated in the August 3, 2012 letter to DEP regarding the assessment of these waterbodies.

Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please to contact me at 850-891-6867 or Catherine Bray at 850-891-6853.

Respectfully,

WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Cox", is written over a horizontal line.

John Cox, Water Quality Enhancement Planning Chief

ATTACHMENTS (9)

cc: Rick Fernandez, Assistant City Manager
Mike Tadros, City, General Manager
Winston Borkowski, Hopping Green & Sams
Linda R. Hudson, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Jan Mandrup-Poulsen, Administrator, FDEP TMDL Program

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