



January 31, 2003

Cecilia Weaver, Acting Director
South Florida Water Management District
Florida Keys Service Center
80431 Old Highway
Islamorada, FL 33036

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Ms. Weaver:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and FEMA regulations for NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10) direct FEMA and other Federal agencies to fully understand and take into consideration during decision making, the environmental consequences of proposed Federal actions (projects). Therefore,

URS Corporation
Eastern Financial Building, Suite 1000
700 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard
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Fax: 305.884.2665

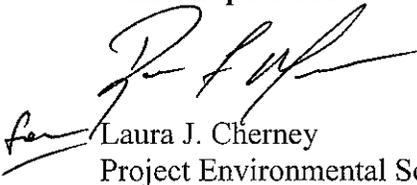
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Please submit your comments to me, in writing, at the contact information listed below within 30 days receipt of this notice.

Laura J. Cherney
URS Corporation
700 South Royal Poinciana Blvd., Suite 1000
Miami Springs, Florida 33166
Fax: (305) 884-2665
Email: laura_j_cherney@urscorp.com

Your comments will be considered during the Draft SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,
URS Corporation


Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Tim McGarry
Monroe County Growth Management Director
2798 Overseas Highway
Marathon, FL 33052

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. McGarry:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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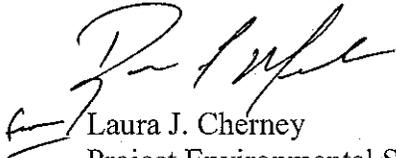
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Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

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Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Teresa Tinker, Policy Coordinator
Growth Management and Strategic Planning
Office of the Governor
1501 Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Ms. Tinker:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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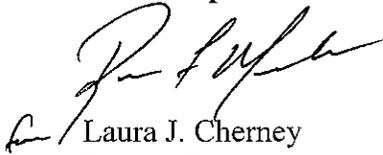
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Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Mark Robson, Regional Director
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
South Region
8535 North Lake Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33412

**Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for
the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System,
Monroe County, Florida.**

Dear Mr. Robson:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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 Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

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Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Bill Causey, Superintendent
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
P.O. Box 500368
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Causey:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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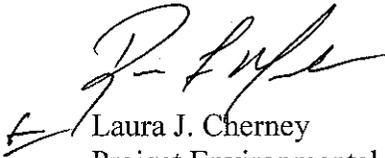
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Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Gerald Briggs, Chief
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Onsite Sewage, HSES
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1713

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Briggs:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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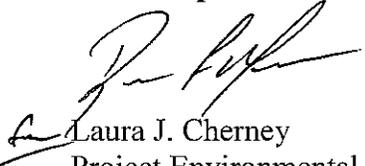
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Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Bart Bibler, Chief
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Water Programs, HSEW
4042 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Bibler:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Gus Rios, Branch Manager
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
South District - Marathon Branch
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 221
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Rios:

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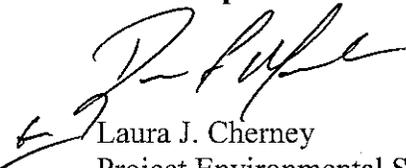
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Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Richard Cantrell, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, South District
Director
Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Rebecca Jetton
Planning Manager
Marathon Regional Service Center
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Ms. Jetton:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

Miles Anderson
Division of Emergency Management
Florida Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumand Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

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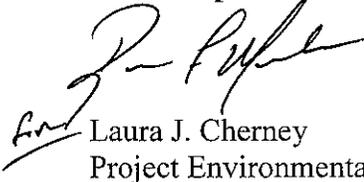
FEMA must comply with NEPA, and other applicable Federal laws and regulations, before making Federal funds available for any disaster recovery and mitigation actions. A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Wastewater Management Improvements in the Florida Keys was prepared in accordance with these regulations, and provides a framework to address impacts of a range of wastewater treatment projects in the Florida Keys. In accordance with 40 CFR Part 1508.28, the Draft SEA for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key tiers from the PEA, and addresses issues specific to this project location.

Please submit your comments to me, in writing, at the contact information listed below within 30 days receipt of this notice.

Laura J. Cherney
URS Corporation
700 South Royal Poinciana Blvd., Suite 1000
Miami Springs, Florida 33166
Fax: (305) 884-2665
Email: laura_j_cherney@urscorp.com

Your comments will be considered during the Draft SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,
URS Corporation


Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



January 31, 2003

John Studt, South Permits Branch Chief
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Permits Division
4400 PGA Blvd., Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Subject: Notice of Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida.

Dear Mr. Studt:

This purpose of this letter is to provide your agency with notice that URS Corporation, on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is preparing a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key Wastewater System, Monroe County, Florida. The Draft SEA evaluates several wastewater management alternatives proposed for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key, and the potential environmental consequences associated with those alternatives. At this time, FEMA requests your comments regarding the range of alternatives (attached).

In 1998, during the aftermath of Hurricane Georges, Congress allocated additional monies for long-term disaster recovery projects in the State of Florida to assist counties whose needs were yet unmet through allocation of primary disaster relief funds. This Unmet Needs money was earmarked for the counties most impacted by Hurricane Georges, including Monroe County. Monroe County requested that wastewater management improvement projects be considered for disaster funding since many existing wastewater facilities do not provide adequate collection, treatment, or disposal, and thus contribute to degrading water quality in the Florida Keys. Since then, FEMA has received a grant application from the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority requesting Federal assistance to upgrade the current wastewater treatment facilities on for Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and FEMA regulations for NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10) direct FEMA and other Federal agencies to fully understand and take into consideration during decision making, the environmental consequences of proposed Federal actions (projects). Therefore,

URS Corporation
Eastern Financial Building, Suite 1000
700 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard
Miami Springs, FL 33166
Tel: 305.884.8900
Fax: 305.884.2665

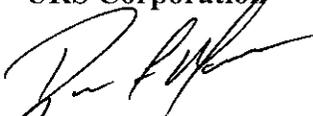
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Your comments will be considered during the Draft SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,
URS Corporation



h Laura J. Cherney
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachment

Cc: Vic Anderson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Marathon Regulatory Office
Science Kilner, FEMA Region IV, Lead Environmental Specialist
Jon Randall, URS Corporation, Environmental Planner



July 24, 2003

Ms. Rebecca Jetton, Planning Manager
Marathon Regional Service Center
2796 Overseas Highway
Suite 212
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Ms. Jetton:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

Public meetings on the Draft SEAs were held in Marathon Key for the Conch Key Project on July 15th 2003, and in the Village of Islamorada for the Plantation Key Project on July 16th, 2003. The public review period for the Draft SEAs is from July 7th to July 25th, 2003.

Background

In 1998, during the aftermath of Hurricane Georges, Congress allocated additional monies for long-term disaster recovery projects in the State of Florida to assist counties whose needs were yet unmet through allocation of primary disaster relief funds. This Unmet Needs money was earmarked for the counties most impacted by Hurricane Georges, including Monroe County. Monroe County requested that wastewater management improvement projects be considered for disaster funding, since many existing wastewater facilities in Monroe County do not provide adequate collection, treatment, or disposal, and thus contribute greatly to degraded water quality in the Florida Keys. Since then, FEMA has received grant applications from several Monroe County communities to upgrade their current wastewater treatment facilities.

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200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-1978
Tel: 301.258.9780
Fax: 301.869.8728



Ms. Rebecca Jetton
Marathon Regional Service Center
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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Submitting Comments

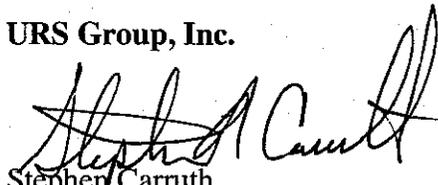
Please submit your comments on the Draft SEAs in writing to Ms. Science Kilner, Lead Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region IV, within 30 days of the receipt of this letter. Ms. Kilner's contact information is:

FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

Your comments will be considered during the Final SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.



Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"

JEB BUSH
Governor

COLLEEN CASTILLE
Secretary

August 5, 2003

Ms. Science Kilner
Lead Environmental Specialist
FEMA Region IV
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta GA 30341

Dear Ms. Kilner:

The Florida Department of Community Affairs supports funding and development of the following wastewater plants:

Bay Point
Conch Key
Key Largo

We have reviewed the draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments. The proposed projects are consistent with the Comprehensive Plans and Land Development Regulations.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Jetton
Administrator

RJ/cr

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100
Phone: 850.488.8466/Suncom 278.8466 FAX: 850.921.0781/Suncom 291.0781
Internet address: <http://www.dca.state.fl.us>

CRITICAL STATE CONCERN FIELD OFFICE
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212
Marathon, FL 33050-3227
(305) 289-2402

COMMUNITY PLANNING
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 488-2356

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 413-9969

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 488-7956



July 24, 2003

Mr. Bill Causey, Superintendent
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
P.O. Box 500368
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Causey:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Mr. Bill Causey
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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Submitting Comments

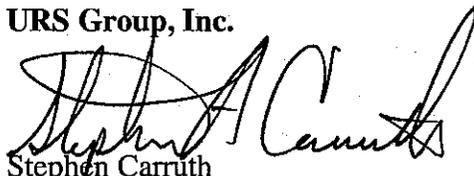
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FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

Your comments will be considered during the Final SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.



Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Jay Slack, Field Supervisor
USFWS
South Florida Ecological Services Office
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Slack:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Mr. Jay Slack
USFWS
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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Submitting Comments

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FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia, Fishery Biologist
National Marine Fisheries Service
11420 N. Kendall Drive, Suite 103
Miami, FL 33176

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Ms. Karazsia:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia

July 24, 2003

Page 2

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Submitting Comments

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FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

Your comments will be considered during the Final SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**

**Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702**

August 21, 2003

**Ms. Science Kilner
Lead Environmental Specialist
FEMA Region IV
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30341**

Dear Ms. Kilner:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) has reviewed the June 27, 2003, Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments (SEA) of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key in the Florida Keys, Monroe County, Florida, which you provided. By letter dated February 18, 2003, to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), we provided comments on the September 20, 2002, Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements in the Florida Keys. In addition, by letters dated February 27, 2003, and March 17, 2003, to URS Corporation, NOAA Fisheries provided comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments (SEA) for the Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony Wastewater Systems, respectively.

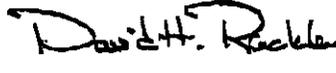
NOAA Fisheries concurs with the determination that construction of Wastewater Systems on Conch Key and Plantation Key are expected to have a beneficial effect with regard to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Nearshore marine habitats including seagrass communities and coral reefs are likely to benefit as a result of reductions in total suspended solids, nutrients, and pathogens that are expected in connection with wastewater improvement activities. In addition, any potential effects on biological resources resulting from site development on Plantation Key would be mitigated through the purchase and protection of replacement habitat at a 2 to 1 ratio.

In conclusion, NOAA Fisheries supports improvement of the existing wastewater treatment facilities Keys-wide, including the proposed improvements at Conch Key and Plantation Key Colony/North Plantation Key. Reducing nutrient loading into nearshore waters from outdated septic systems and cesspits should result in improved water quality and positive effects on EFH and other NOAA Fisheries-trust resources in the Florida Keys.



At this time, we do not have specific comments or recommendations to provide. The intent and procedural requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the regulations for implementing the EFH requirements of the Act have been met. If we can be of further assistance, please advise. Related comments, questions or correspondence should be directed to Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia in Miami, Florida, at (305) 595-8352.

Sincerely,



Frederick C. Sutter III
Deputy Regional Administrator

cc:

EPA, Marathon
DEP, Marathon
FFWCC, Tallahassee
FWS, Vero Beach
F/SER4
F/SER45-Karazsia



July 24, 2003

Dr. Janet Matthews, Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building, Room 305
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Dr. Matthews:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Dr. Janet Matthews
Division of Historical Resources
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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Submitting Comments

Please submit your comments on the Draft SEAs in writing to Ms. Science Kilner, Lead Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region IV, within 30 days of the receipt of this letter. Ms. Kilner's contact information is:

FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

Your comments will be considered during the Final SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Mark Robson, Regional Director
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
South Region
8535 North Lake Blvd
West Palm Beach, FL 33412

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Robson:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Mr. Mark Robson
South Region
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Gus Rios, Branch Manager
FDEP South District - Marathon Branch
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 221
Marathon, FL 33050

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Rios:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and FEMA regulations for NEPA compliance (44 CFR Part 10) direct FEMA and other Federal agencies to

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Mr. Gus Rios
July 24, 2003
Page 2

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FEMA Region IV – Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Fax: (770) 220-5440

Your comments will be considered during the Final SEA preparation process. Thank you for your involvement in this documentation process.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Ms. Cecilia Weaver, Acting
Director
South Florida Water Management District
Florida Keys Service Center
80431 Old Hwy
Islamorada, FL 33036

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Ms. Weaver:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Ms. Cecilia Weaver
South Florida Water Management District
July 24, 2003
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Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
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July 24, 2003

Mr. John Studt, South Permits Branch Chief
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Permits Division
4400 PGA Blvd., Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Studt:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Mr. John Studt
Regulatory Permits Division
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URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Marathon Regulatory Office
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 221
Marathon, FL 33050-4276

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear :

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), URS Group, Inc. is providing your agency with electronic copies on compact disks of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Wastewater Treatment Improvements in Conch Key, Monroe County, Florida, and the Draft SEA for Wastewater Improvements for Plantation Key/Plantation Colony, the Village of Islamorada, Florida. The SEAs evaluate the impacts of construction of wastewater treatment facilities in the communities of Conch Key and Plantation Key. Separate, initial letters outlining FEMA's intent to prepare the Draft SEAs for these two projects were transmitted to your agency on January 31, 2003. Agency comments that were received in response to this letter were considered in preparation of the attached Draft SEAs. At this time, FEMA requests your review and comment on the Draft SEAs.

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Stephen Carruth

Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments

Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
US EPA, Region 4
Office of Environmental Assessment
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Mueller:

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Mr. Heinz J. Mueller
Office of Environmental Assessment
July 24, 2003
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Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Gerald Briggs, Chief
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Onsite Sewage, HSES
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1713

Subject: **Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.**

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Mr. Gerald Briggs
Bureau of Onsite Sewage, HSES
July 24, 2003
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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Bart Bibler, Chief
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Water Programs, HSEW
4042 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Bibler:

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Sincerely,

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Stephen Carruth
Project Environmental Scientist

Attachments
Enclosures as noted



July 24, 2003

Mr. Teresa Tinker, Policy Coordinator
Growth Management and Strategic Planning
Office of the Governor
1501 Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessments of Proposed Wastewater Treatment Improvements for Conch Key and Plantation Key/Plantation Colony in the Florida Keys.

Dear Mr. Tinker:

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Mr. Teresa Tinker
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