

December 23, 2003

Mr. Douglas E. Barr, Executive Director
Northwest Florida Water Management District
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, Florida 32333

Re: Water Resource Development Work Program

Dear Mr. Barr:

Thank you for your Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program. Your document was prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 373.536 (6)(1)4, F.S. The Department's review of the work program must include an evaluation of:

- *the work program's consistency with the furtherance of the district's approved regional water supply plans, and*
- *the adequacy of the proposed expenditures.*

Your work program is consistent with the District's Regional Water Supply Plan and the expenditures generally appear to be adequate.

We noted that as part of the Hydrologic Data Collection and Analysis project, the District has added a web site showing the monthly monitoring results. This should be a valuable tool in developing water management strategies. The District also plugged 200 wells last year as part of its Abandoned Well Plugging Strategy.

However, we did note that there was a lack of information regarding progress made on many of your projects during the past year. From the detailed budget tables, it is apparent that the District is spending money implementing these projects each year, so it would be helpful to have a corresponding description highlighting the progress made during the year. It is important that the District provide clear descriptions of what has been accomplished each year to show progress toward implementing these sections of the water supply plan.

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As you prepare next year's report, we ask that the District provide brief summaries of a project's progress during the past year, summaries of any studies that have been completed, a brief description of what's expected to be accomplished in the upcoming year, and an explanation of any changes in schedules or budgets for the project. In the meantime, we have attached comments related to specific projects and ask that you provide a response to those.

Sincerely,

Janet G. Llewellyn
Deputy Director
Division of Water Resource Management

JGL/kpg
Attachments

cc: Mary Jean Yon, DEP, NWD
Ron Bartel, NFWWMD
Tyler MacMillan, NFWWMD
Tom Swihart, DEP
David Trimble, DEP
Kathleen P. Greenwood, DEP
Leonard Zeiler, Office of the Governor

NFWFMD Water Resource Development Work Program
Specific Comments

1. p. 3 – The report notes that the District facilitated a grant for Fairpoint Wellfield. Please provide a brief description of the wellfield project.
2. p. 5 - Strategy 1, Floridan Aquifer Sustainability Model Analysis. Last year the District had budgeted \$300,000 but from reviewing this year's report, it appears that the District only spent \$80,000 last year. Please provide a brief explanation of this large difference between funds anticipated to be spent and those actually spent.
3. p. 6 - Strategy 2, Inland Sand and Gravel Aquifer Project. Last year's report indicated that the drilling program was complete yet this year's report says it will continue. Last year the District expected to complete this project in FY 02/03; now the District expects to complete this year. Please provide an explanation for the delay.
4. p. 7 - Strategy 3, Coastal Sand and Gravel Aquifer Sources. We note that the discussion for this strategy is exactly the same as last year and that the District spent \$55,000 last year. Please provide a brief description of what the District accomplished.
5. p. 8 - Strategy 4, Development of Regional Water Management Strategies and RWSP Updates. We note that the discussion for this strategy is exactly the same as last year and that the District spent \$52,000 last year. Please provide a brief description of what the District accomplished.
6. p. 9. Strategy 5, Reuse Coordination Program. We note that this discussion is almost the same description as last year, and that the District spent \$52,000 last year. Please provide a description of what type of progress has been made toward further developing reuse in the area.
7. In reviewing the budget information presented, the report appears to indicate that the District spent \$438,000 last year implementing the Water Resource Development Work Program for Region II. In reviewing the District's request for funding this activity through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, the total money requested was \$524,818.91. Please explain this apparent discrepancy. It is our understanding that the money requested through the trust fund is only to implement those projects identified in the work program. If there are additional projects outside the work program then, additional descriptions of those projects should be provided immediately.