

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: April 24, 2006

SUBJECT: Approve Miami-Dade County Interim Consumptive Use Authorization and Agreement (Agreement).

Background: Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) seeks to enter into this Agreement with the District conditionally authorizing an average daily withdrawal of 349.76 million gallons per day from their existing Biscayne Aquifer wellfields for period of up to 18 months during which time the WASD is required to complete several specific tasks necessary to complete their pending application for a consumptive use permit. Included in the Agreement is a requirement for the WASD to develop a plan and schedule to meet all requested increases over its 2003 demands in water supply from alternative sources, including wastewater reuse for offsetting regional system demands, that will be developed commensurate with growth in demands.

How this helps meet the District's 10-year Strategic Plan: This Agreement provides the basis for WASD to obtain a reliable source of water supply for existing and future demands without placing increased demands on the natural resources and efficient use of traditional sources.

Funding Source: This action does not include any obligation of funding by the District although consideration of cooperative funding for alternative water supply development projects resulting from this Agreement may be sought at a latter date.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: Water supply within the Lower East Coast Planning Area with specific application in Miami-Dade County.

What concerns could this Board item raise? This Agreement is consistent with April Board direction regarding restricting dry season water supply demands on the regional system.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? This Agreement commits Miami-Dade County to the timely completion of their water use permit application while incorporating alternative sources to meet growth. This is also a message to other utilities in the Lower East Coast that alternatives to Regional System/Everglades water supplies are necessary for meeting increasing demands for water.

Nk/CM