

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: June 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Denial of Surface Water Management Permit Modification Application 070712-13 for a project known as Indian Trail Improvement District M-1 Basin (Palm Beach County)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends denial of Surface Water Management Modification Application 070712-13 (Permit Number 50-00761-S). This application is a request to allow a discharge of 100 cfs from the Indian Trail Improvement District's (ITID) existing 40th Street structure into the C-51 Basin via the M-1 Canal during certain conditions. The applicant has not provided reasonable assurance that the project meets the Conditions for Issuance of Permits listed in Sections 40E-4.301 and 40E-4.302, FAC; and Section 6.0 of the Basis of Review. In addition, the applicant has not provided reasonable assurance that the project is not inconsistent with the overall objectives of the District and will not be harmful to the water resources of the District pursuant to Chapter 373.416 F.S.

BACKGROUND

The applicant is requesting a discharge of 100 cfs from the ITID 40th Street structure into the C-51 Canal, conditional upon the S-155A headwater and tailwater stages being below 13.0' NGVD and 11.7' NGVD, respectively.

The 100 cfs inflow into the C-51 Canal would occur upstream west of the S-155A structure, making it contributory to the STA-1E, unless the S-155A structure was to be operated.

STA-1E has been operating and treating stormwater runoff since 2005. However the STA will be in an *interim operation period* until completion of the Compartment B Stormwater Treatment Area and associated EAA Canal Conveyance improvements (ECART), the S-375 Structure is repaired or replaced and the completion of the CERP L-8 Basin Diversion project.

During the STA-1E *interim operation period*, S-319 captures water from multiple sources which discharge to the C-51W Canal, including sources such as L-8 basin runoff and Lake Okeechobee regulatory releases which are not intended to be treated in STA-1E. EFA Permit 0279499-001-EM for STA-1E contains a specific condition requiring the District to operate within the hydraulic and treatment capacity of the STA, also referred to as the Operational Envelope.

For these reasons, diversions to tide through S-155A are anticipated to ensure the STA is operated within the Operational Envelope and not overloaded. The Indian Trail Improvement District request to have 100 cfs of discharge to the C-51W Canal without coordination with the District's Operations staff, if approved, would result in the addition of even more water to the C-51W Canal (the tributary canal for STA-1E), thereby increasing the probability of overloading the STA or sending additional water east during adverse conditions or a combination of both. Without coordination with District staff, the proposed flow could and would occur when the downstream conditions in the C-51 Canal do not allow all or part of the discharge from ITID to be sent to tide via S-155A and S-155. While the number is relatively small, it can be expected that during wet years the basin could generate meaningful volume during a period of already high flows; (6,000 acre-feet per month). As a result, the request does not meet all of the conditions required to allow uncoordinated (approved) releases which is inconsistent with the overall objectives of the District and may be harmful to the water resources of the District.

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ITID



100 CFS
From ITID

S5AW S5AE

S31.9

C-51 Canal

S155A

STA-1E