

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

**DATE:** December 4, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Installation of Temporary Forward Pumps in Lake Okeechobee  
Contract Number 4600000577

**Background:** This construction contract is to provide professional construction services to install the electrical and mechanical infrastructure to implement the installation of 14 electric pumps at three sites along the southern end of Lake Okeechobee. Lake Okeechobee Forward Pumps are part of the pro-active plan that will be put in place to prepare the District for potential drought effects on lake levels, in the event that the rainy season does not return the lake to desired levels to sustain the needs of the local economy, surrounding industries, urban areas and regions to the south including the Everglades National Park and Florida's East Coast.

This contract includes all labor, materials and equipment to upgrade three Lake Okeechobee Water Control Structures S-351, S-352 and S-354 to allow for installation of 14 District owned 42-inch diameter horizontal, submerged, electric pump assemblies. The upgrade work includes refurbishing 14 stoplog bulkheads and seven manatee protection screens; refurbishing three electrical control skids and all wiring, conduits, and equipment necessary to power, operate and maintain these assemblies. Contractor shall install two test pump assemblies at S-351 and shall perform an operational test. For the remainder of the 36 month period, the contractor will be on stand by in the event it is required to make all three structures operational during a drought/emergency period.

**How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan:** This project is an integral component in the District's 10-year Strategic Plan to restore the Lake Okeechobee Watershed and its water management system.

**Funding Source:** This is a 1,215 day contract with Lucas Marine Construction, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Installation of Horizontal Submerged Pumps-Lake Okeechobee Forward Pumping, in the amount of \$698,900, for which dedicated funds (Lake Okeechobee Trust Fund) are budgeted.

**This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:** This item impacts the Lake Okeechobee and Operations resource areas and services.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?** None. This Request for Bids (RFB) followed standard procurement procedures and the lowest responsive and responsible bidder was selected.

**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?** So that the Agency can be positioned for the possibility of potential drought effects on lake levels.

CM/kc

Attachments: Resolution, Map