

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: June 20, 2008

SUBJECT: Approve Water Use Permit Modification and Renewal of Application 060411-13 for Permit 50-00367-W, City of Boca Raton Public Water Supply for the projected demands with a 20-year duration.

SUMMARY

Staff recommends approval of the modification and renewal of Water Use Permit 50-00367-W, City of Boca Raton, to withdraw the projected allocation of 19,190 million gallons per year (MGY), which equates to 52.6 million gallons day (MGD) with a 20-year duration.

BACKGROUND

The City of Boca Raton is an existing public water supply located in southeastern Palm Beach County, just north of the Broward County line. The Atlantic Ocean forms the eastern boundary. The City operates six wellfields with a total of 54 existing and three proposed wells. The City provides water to 128,107 users within the city limits and an additional approximately 19,000 customers outside the City limits. The service area is approximately 35 square miles. The service area includes large users such as Florida Atlantic University (FAU) with 25,000 students and 4,000 staff, Town Center Mall, and Lynn University. These users are not counted as residents but are instead reflected in the per capita use rate of the residential users.

MFL RECOVERY and CERP ISSUES

The recommended Biscayne Aquifer allocation is 19,190 MGY, which equates to 52.6 MGD, for 20 years. This represents an increase of 1,450 MGY over previously permitted allocation of 17,740 MGY. The City has identified existing permitted legal users that are currently withdrawing from the Biscayne Aquifer either directly or indirectly via canals tapping into the regional system, and by supplying reclaimed water generated by the City's wastewater treatment plant for irrigation supply to these users, will reduce the overall withdrawal from the regional system by 2,236 MGY, more than offsetting the increase in allocation. These replacements will be complete by 2013, but because demands may exceed the rate at which the replacements are made, a temporary allocation of up to 3.9 MGD may be needed from the Biscayne Aquifer until April 2013.

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