

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: September 26, 2006

SUBJECT: Authorize staff to proceed with implementing the Action Plan for the Central Florida Coordination Area

Background: After jointly concluding sustainable quantities of groundwater in Central Florida are insufficient to meet future public water supply demands and there is an immediate need to develop and implement alternative water supply projects, the South Florida Water Management District (“SFWMD”), St. Johns River Water Management District, and Southwest Florida Water Management District cooperatively developed a “Recommended Action Plan for the Central Florida Coordination Area.” (Action Plan) The Action Plan is designed to be a coordinated and consistent approach to address the Districts’ joint conclusion that sustainable quantities of groundwater in the Central Florida region are insufficient to meet future demands and that there is an immediate need to develop and implement alternative water supply projects in the areas.

How this helps meet the District’s 10-year Strategic Plan: Authorizing staff to implement the Action Plan will help address water supply demands and develop alternative water supply projects for public water suppliers in Central Florida.

Funding Source: There is no funding associated with this item.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: Both the Regulatory (Water Use Regulation) and Water Supply programs will be impacted by this item. The Action Plan encompasses Central Florida Coordination Area which includes all of Polk, Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties, southern Lake County, and the City of Cocoa’s public supply service area in Brevard County.

What concerns could this Board item raise? Public water supply utilities in the Central Florida area may be concerned about limiting their allocations to 2013 demands in the near term future.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? Authorizing staff to implement the Action Plan is a critical means of initiating a coordinated and consistent program for resolving short and long term water supply issues in the Central Florida region.