



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
NO. LTC # 147-2006

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: May 31, 2006

SUBJECT: **STATUS REPORT ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WATER AND WASTEWATER PUMP STATION UPGRADES**

The contract for the pump station upgrade project was awarded to Widell Inc. (Widell) on May 18, 2004, after a lengthy litigation and settlement resulting from having to default a previous contractor for non-performance. As part of the contract, Widell assumed ownership and responsibility of materials and equipment previously procured by the defaulted contractor. A Second Notice to Proceed was issued to Widell on June 28, 2004.

The project encompasses major equipment replacement and upgrades at 27 different locations throughout the City, of which 12 are dry pit/wet well wastewater pump stations (WWPS), 11 are submersible WWPS and four are water pump stations (WPS). Of these pump stations, two WWPS are structured with an additional booster station which operates separately from the dry pit station for a total of 29 pump stations. The project includes complete upgrades to all WWPS and WPS. The submersible WWPS include electrical, instrumentation and communication upgrades. Most of the WWPS will have a new back-up generator housed in a new structure.

Presently, the project is six months behind schedule due to a combination of different factors that have delayed or interrupted the progress of the project, including numerous hurricanes in the past two years and the use of owner-furnished materials and equipment. Hurricanes not only precluded the contractor from working, but also impacted the market for procurement of construction materials as well as the availability of equipment vendors, such as for generators. The condition of some of the pump station equipment that had been previously procured earlier by the original contractor also resulted in additional delays. The equipment had been stored at a remote location in Miami, where some of the equipment suffered deterioration due to weather exposure. At the time the contractor began the construction, some of the equipment had to be returned to the manufacturer for repairs and re-certification. It was determined that some of the equipment and materials were not re-usable and had to be purchased again.

Currently, there are on-going renovations at 20 pump stations. The contractor has been able to substantially complete pump stations upgrades at the following locations:

- WWPS 1 on Jefferson Avenue and 11 Street - In operation since April 2005. Correction of punch list items ongoing.
- WWPS 28 on Pine Tree Drive and 28 Street (combination dry pit/ booster station) - The certification for operation of the station delivered to DERM on May 12 by the consultant and final certification from DERM is still pending. A punch list is being generated.
- WWPS 4 on Hibiscus Island (submersible station) - Correction of punch list items ongoing.

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- WWPS 5 on Palm Island (submersible station) - Correction of punch list items ongoing.
- WWPS 13 on Sunset Island 3 (submersible station) - Correction of punch list items ongoing.
- WWPS 14 on Sunset Island 2 (submersible station) - Correction of punch list items ongoing.
- WWPS 18 on La Gorce Island (submersible station) - Correction of punch list items ongoing.

Significant progress has been achieved within the last two months at numerous locations. The contractor estimates WWPS 29, on Indian Creek and 63rd Street, will be completed in July; demolition has been completed and new piping and valves installed. The overall project is estimated to be 75% complete, with substantial completion expected by December 2006.


JMG/TJ/JCH/JCC/HS

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