



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT
701 SAN MARCO BOULEVARD
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207-8175

AUG 28 2019

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9-4-19

Programs and Project Management

Mr. Drew Bartlett
Executive Director
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

This letter is in response to the request to execute a Pre-Partnership Credit Agreement (PPCA) for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP) received July 22, 2019. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (Corps) is currently reviewing the draft PPCA to ensure the scope is clearly defined and the language meets all legal requirements.

The Corps is encouraged by the commitment of the state to move forward with development of Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well features contained in the LOWRP Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP). The Corps recognizes the essential nature of water storage north of Lake Okeechobee to provide the flexibility needed to manage the Everglades system to meet the goals of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

The Corps also recognizes the many questions related to the science and implementation of ASR wells at the scale proposed in the LOWRP TSP brought forth by stakeholders during the plan development. As partners in the implementation of CERP, the Corps will provide the requested assistance to your agency in development of a well-researched and carefully thought out plan for ASR well implementation.

The Corps looks forward to supporting the South Florida Water Management District's efforts and continuing our long standing partnership to meet the water resources needs of the state through implementation of CERP.

If you have any questions regarding the status of the Corps review, please feel free contact me or the LOWRP Project Manager, Mr. E. Timothy Gysan at (904) 232-3272 or by e-mail at earl.t.gysan@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

KELLY.ANDREW.DONALD.JR.1025510875
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Andrew D. Kelly, Jr.
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander