

March 4, 2017

Mr. Marc Swartz  
City of North Port Utilities  
6644 W. Price Boulevard  
North Port, FL 34291-4106

Dear Mr. Swartz,

Apologies for the delay in response, Mark. We had our bi-annual, on-site laboratory audit by the State contractor this past week. For us, it's the equivalent of an IRS audit! Turned out well, but the preparation is intense.

Thank you for considering Mote to continue North Port's water level/salinity monitoring and the HBMP monitoring program in the Myakkahatchee Creek. We'd like to offer our sincere thanks for your confidence in us and would like very much to continue this work.

We will be able to maintain the existing pricing for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. For the monthly monitoring of the Myakkahatchee for water quality for the HBMP in conjunction with your staff, analyzing samples collected by us both, the annual effort will be \$59,364 or \$4,947 monthly. The continuous salinity/water level monitoring program will be at \$40,548 or \$3,379 monthly. Both efforts will total \$99,912 for FY 2017-2018.

Please don't hesitate to call and discuss these efforts if I can provide additional budget detail or justification. I have attached our letter from the IRS as to our non-profit 501(c)3 status, our current tax-exempt certificate, as previously requested by Ms. Anna Duffey. Please let me know if you need anything additional at this point.

Thank you again for allowing Mote Marine Laboratory to have performed this work over the last year and we look forward to continuing our relationship.

Sincerely,

L. Kellie  
Dixon

Digitally signed by L. Kellie Dixon  
DN: cn=L. Kellie Dixon, o=Mote  
Marine Laboratory, ou,  
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Date: 2017.03.04 15:21:43 -05'00'

L. Kellie Dixon, Ph.D.

Cc: Ms. Anna Duffy

Enclosures  
LKD:mei

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## Michelle Tipp

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**From:** Marc Swartz  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** Michelle Tipp  
**Subject:** FW: Triennial report  
**Attachments:** North Port Justification 2017-2018.doc

Marc Swartz  
Operations Manager  
City of North Port Utilities  
Office # 941-240-8009

-----Original Message-----

From: Kellie Dixon [mailto:lkdixon@mote.org]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:09 PM  
To: Marc Swartz <mswartz@cityofnorthport.com>  
Subject: Triennial report

Hello Mark,

As we discussed, while the actual preparation of the report to be submitted in April 2018 to SWFWMD will be straightforward and can largely be undertaken by other staff under my supervision, the predictive salinity model is in a software that no one at the lab but myself can run/edit and I'd guess the same would go for staff at North Port as well. In order to not lose the effort spent in developing this model, we should update it to a new software and current OS computer platform so that in 2021(!) it will still be useful. I'm proposing an Excel- or R-based update since so many people are familiar with those. Let me know if you have other thoughts on this matter.

I found the justification that we provided for the last triennial report and have altered it for the 2018 effort.

Thanks again for your confidence in us. We appreciate it greatly.

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Regards,

Kellie

L. Kellie Dixon, Ph.D.

Senior Scientistlkdixon@mote.org

Chemical & Physical Ecology Program

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The City of North Port is operating under a Southwest Florida Water Management District Individual Water Use Permit No. 20 002923.013 (dated April 8, 2011). As part of this permit, Special Condition 17 requires monthly sample and data collection under a defined Hydrobiological Monitoring Plan (HBMP) as submitted to the District on June 13, 2006. Changes to the existing HBMP may be proposed but may require modification of the Water Use Permit. The HBMP effort is a recurring work element of the Utilities Department *and is being performed by Mote Marine Laboratory in conjunction with Utilities staff.*

On a triennial basis, the District also requires a data summary and interpretation to evaluate if withdrawals by the City have caused, or will cause, adverse impacts to the ecology of the river and/or its estuary (as defined by District Rule and associated Performance Standards). The last of these reports was *prepared by Mote Marine Laboratory and submitted in 2015.* The upcoming report is due April 1, 2018 and provision for this report should be included in the FY 2017-2018 budget together with the ongoing monthly monitoring effort.

Previously, the triennial report included a compilation of relevant flow and rainfall data, statistics on withdrawals and discharge, all monthly water quality data, and interpretation of both seasonal and salinity-related water quality variations. Predictive models were developed to compute salinity of the lower Myakkahatchee Creek (below WCS-101 and WCS-106) identified the importance of flows in the Myakka and Peace Rivers. Salinity impacts under a variety of City withdrawal scenarios were predicted to indicate the level of impact expected from the City's withdrawals. In the absence of specific guidance from the District, we propose to provide updated data summaries, review previously identified water quality relationships, assess the continued relevance of the predictive salinity model, and demonstrate the minimal impacts under potential City withdrawal scenarios. In addition, the predictive salinity model was originally constructed on a now-obsolete platform and operating system which will limit its usefulness in the future. Under this effort for 2017-2018, we also propose to transfer the coding to a newer software (Microsoft Excel 2010, or R) which has broad support and backwards compatibility for the City's use in future years.

We estimate the 2018 report to require \$35,000 for planning purposes. *This amount takes advantage of the efficiency of utilizing Mote Marine Laboratory as the contractor to re-apply their previously developed analyses, techniques and models.*