

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Warren Zwanka, P.G., Division Director, Resource Management

THRU: Steve Minnis, Deputy Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: September 5, 2019

RE: Approval of a Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-121-219095-6, Pilgrim's Pride Project, for Industrial Use, Suwannee County

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve Water Use Permit number 2-121-219095-6 with seventeen standard conditions and eight special limiting conditions, to Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, in Suwannee County.

BACKGROUND

This is a renewal of an existing industrial water use. The project consists of a 452-acre poultry processing facility located approximately 12 miles northwest of Live Oak in Suwannee County. The facility's 1.9500 mgd water demand includes 1.1450 mgd for process water, 0.5500 mgd of water leaving in the product, 0.3150 mgd in evaporative losses, and 0.0400 mgd for potable use. There is no planned project expansion through the permit duration and no allocation change from the previous permit sequence. The facility emphasizes water conservation by reducing once-through cooling processes to a minimum; reusing 0.1000 mgd of reclaimed water to supplement groundwater for wash-down, cooling, and waste product transport; and recharging a portion of the water used by application on a 50-acre spray field.

All seven active water wells will be monitored by the permittee using totalizing flow meters, with daily readings reported monthly to the District's E-permitting website. There have been no reports of interference or observed harm to water resources associated with previous withdrawals at this project.

Staff has determined the proposed withdrawals are in accordance with Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFLs) and MFL recovery strategies pursuant to Chapters 62-42, 40B-8, and Emergency Rule 40BER17-01, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The application is complete and satisfies the conditions for issuance in Chapter 40B-2, F.A.C.

/tm