



GAINESVILLE REGIONAL UTILITIES  
GENERAL MANAGER

April 4, 2014

Ms. Betty Baker, County Manager  
Alachua County  
P.O. Box 5547  
Gainesville, FL 32627

RE: Meeting Regarding Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee River Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs)

Dear Ms. Baker,

At last night's Gainesville City Commission meeting (April 3, 2014), GRU staff discussed the proposed MFL for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers, and the Alachua County Board of County Commissioner's vote to challenge the proposed MFL. As you may know, GRU is in support of the rule proposed by FDEP. As a result of our discussions, the City Commission directed staff to do three things: 1) meet with Alachua County staff and others to see if an approach can be developed to avoid opposing each other in the administrative hearing; 2) prepare any documents necessary to intervene in the administrative hearing to support the proposed MFL rule should the City Commission deem it necessary; and 3) schedule a Special City Commission meeting on April 10 at 5 PM to hear the results of staff's discussions and determine whether to intervene in the administrative hearing.

Per City Commission direction, we are requesting to meet with you and/ or your staff. Please invite others you think may be helpful in this discussion. We will be inviting representatives from the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Based on the short time line for the administrative hearing and the City Commission meeting, we need to meet as soon as possible. Our staff is available to meet anytime on Tuesday, April 8, but I realize this is a BoCC meeting day, so if another day is better, please provide those options so we can schedule. Rick Hutton will be the lead from GRU in organizing the meeting.

Please contact me at 393-1035 if you have any questions or Rick can be reached at 393-1218.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Viehe".

Kathy Viehe  
Interim General Manager for Utilities

xc: Gainesville Mayor and City Commission  
Alachua County Board of County Commissioners  
Russ Blackburn, Gainesville City Manager