

APPENDIX C
Consultations



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office

263 13th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

July 21, 2014

F/SER47:LO/pw

(Sent via Electronic Mail)

Grace Musumeci, Chief
Environmental Review Section
Sustainability and Multi-Media Programs Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007-1866

Attention: Nikolaus Wirth

Dear Ms. Musumeci:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed the letter dated June 26, 2014, from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiating consultation under the essential fish habitat (EFH) provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) for the demolition of six manholes and abandonment of 2,200 feet of a wastewater interceptor that is currently submerged in the Caribbean Sea approximately 50 feet offshore from Sugar Bay Beach and the Colony Cove area at Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands¹. NMFS also reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project prepared by BioImpact, Inc., and dated June 2014. EPA has determined the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely effect, federally managed fisheries and their EFH. As the nation's federal trustee for the conservation and management of marine, estuarine, and anadromous fishery resources, the following comments and recommendations are provided pursuant to authorities of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

The EA and letter from EPA collectively provide the mandatory elements of an EFH assessment [50 CFR 600.920(e)(3)], namely a description of the action, an analysis of the potential adverse effects of the action on EFH, the federal agency's conclusions regarding the effects of the action on EFH, and applicable mitigation. EA Section 3 describes how the manholes and pipeline would be cleaned and isolated from the remainder of the system, the buried pipeline abandoned in place, and the manholes collapsed so they were no longer above grade. EA Section 5 describes the impacts of the work on the natural environmental, and EA Section 5.9.1 (titled EFH Assessment) provides a complete description of EFH and federally managed fishery species in the area, including seagrass, conch, snappers, groupers, and spiny lobster. Measures to avoid and minimize impacts to EFH and federally managed fishery species are described in EA Section 3, Section 5, Appendix D, and Appendix E, including cleaning the interiors of the manholes and pipeline before demolition, using hand tools for the demolition, and using turbidity curtains to limit dispersal of sediments. Once the manholes are below grade, EPA expects sediments to accumulate over the debris and for seagrass to colonize the sediments from adjacent areas.

NMFS concludes the demolition of six manholes and abandonment of 2,200 feet of a wastewater interceptor as described in the EA and EPA's letter would not adversely impact EFH, and no EFH

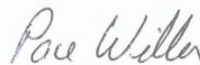
¹ EPA proposes to fund a portion of the project making it a federal action subject to consultation under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.



conservation measures are recommended under Section 305(b)(4)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. In short, the project should be a net benefit to the local ecosystem. The work described in the EA will likely require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). NMFS does not expect to provide USACE with EFH conservation recommendations unless the work plan differs significantly from that in the EA or unless new information becomes available.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Related questions or comments should be directed to the attention of Ms. Lia A. Ortiz at NOAA HCD, 3013 Estate Golden Rock, Almeric Christian Federal Building Box 4, Christiansted, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. She may be reached by telephone at 340-718-1236 or 305-213-3089 or by e-mail at Lia.Ortiz@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



/ for

Virginia M. Fay
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

EPA, Musumeci.Grace@epa.gov
EPA, Wirth.Nikolaus@epa.gov
COE, Sindulfo.Castillo@usace.army.mil
CFMC, Graciela_CFMC@yahoo.com
F/SER3, Lisamarie.Carrubba@noaa.gov
F/SER4, David.Dale@noaa.gov
F/SER47, Lia.Ortiz@noaa.gov, Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov



FEMA

November 5, 2014

Dr. Lisamarie Carruba
NOAA Fisheries
Caribbean Field Office
P.O. Box 1310
Boquerón, PR 00622

Endangered Species and Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act consultation
FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002
USVI, St. Croix Coastal Interceptor Relocation
Subgrant Applicant: Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority

Dear Dr. Carruba:

The Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) has applied for financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for St. Croix Coastal Interceptor Relocation at La Grande Princess. FEMA is proposing to fund the project through the Hazard Mitigation Pre-Disaster Mitigation-Competitive (PDMC) Grant Program.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate mandatory Endangered Species Act, and Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act consultation with the NOAA's Fisheries Service relevant to the proposed undertaking. The scope of work for the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project consists of easement and land acquisition (by VIWMA); clean and inspect existing sewer line with close circuit camera television; clean and abandon in place 2200 feet of existing sewer line; clean and collapse six (6) existing manholes; install 200 feet of new gravity line from MH-31 to a new lift station with required mechanical, structural, instrument, and electrical systems; install 2300 feet of new force main piping with air release valves; install new transition manhole with 600 feet of new gravity line; rehabilitate two (2) manholes; and install two (2) lateral connections to reconnect current users. Inspection and acceptance of work will be performed by the VIWMA Division of Engineering and VIWMA Division of Operations during and upon completion of the project.

The project location and route is shown on the attached location plan and topographic survey and is as follows: The beginning of the gravity line re-route starts at MH#0431 (17.7572N, 64.7237W). The proposed lift station 0.04 acre property to be acquired is at 17.7569N, 64.7244W. The proposed lift station property and structure is located near the south east

Dr. Lisamarie Carruba
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FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002 St. Croix, USVI
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boundary of the existing Nature Conservatory at Plot No. 52 La Grande Princess. The force main runs southeast through Plots 52C, 52D, 53A; it continues southeast along the boundary between Plots 222 and 223; it continues southeast at edge of Road Plot No. 236; and ends at the proposed transition manhole just northwest of the Sugar Beach Condominium Driveway (17.7524N, 64.7206W). The gravity from the proposed transition manhole runs northeast along the south boundary of the Sugar Beach Condominium Property towards the existing manhole MH#0439 (17.7534N, 64.7193W) of the Coastal Interceptor to complete the re-route.

The pump station construction will result in the permanent alteration of 0.04 acres. The construction of the pipeline will result in the temporary disturbance of 12,000ft² or 0.275 acres of previously disturbed land. Since the area has been cleared in the past, the placement of the force main and associated pump station will not result in the removal of large trees or landscape specimens, only secondary growth trees, herbaceous plants and grasses that lay along the proposed route. These species are opportunistic and will quickly recolonize the route. No planting or seeding is necessary or proposed along the narrow disturbance footprint. A portion of the route has been cleared in the spring of 2014 in association with selling, Turquoise Bay, the largest undeveloped plot the line will cross.

There are dense seagrass beds off shore and these grass beds extend up to and around several of the manholes. Both turtlegrass (*Thalassia testudinum*) and manatee grass (*Syringodium filiformis*) are present. Due to wave erosion there is a halo of sand around all of the manholes. Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*), milk conch (*S. costatus*), hawkwing conch (*S. raninus*), penshells (*Pinna carnea*) and roostertail conch (*S. gallus*) are present in the grassbeds. The urchins *Lytechinus variegatus* and *Tripneustes ventricosus* were also noted in the grassbeds. The variegated feather duster, *Bispira variegata* is present but not common offshore. Within the grass beds there are numerous algal species and many of the cobbles in the area are colonized by algae species; *Halimeda*, *Penicillus*, *Valonia*, *Galaxaura*, *Caulerpa*, *Dictyopteris*, *Wrangelia*, *Bryopsis*, *Hypnea*, *Ulva*, *Enteromorpha*, *Codium*, *Laurencia*, and *Batophora* are all present.

Because of the nutrient impacts there is abundant *Cheatomorpha* along the shoreline where the pipe is in the water. The algae diminish to the east and west away from the exposed line. The beach and the offshore waters are used by endangered turtle species. These include: hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), leatherbacks (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). The turtles forage in the seagrass beds and the wide sandy beach at Sugar Bay is suitable for turtle nesting. As such, heavy equipment will not be driven on the beach. The removal of the beach manholes will most probably result in the spreading of seagrass into their footprints and the halos around them providing additional turtle forage habitat. The removal of the beach manhole will improve the beaches for turtle nesting.

The selected species as outlined in the *Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Generic Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) of the U.S. Caribbean Including a Draft Environmental*

Assessment (1998) include Nassau grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*), red hind (*Epinephelus guttatus*), coney (*Epinephelus fulvus*), yellowtail snapper (*Ocyurus chrysurus*), mutton snapper (*Lutjanus analis*), schoolmaster (*Lutjanus apodus*), grey snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*), silk snapper (*Lutjanus vivanus*), butterfly fish (*Chaetodon striatus*), squirrel fish (*Holocentrus ascensionis*), white grunt (*Haemulon plumieri*), queen triggerfish (*Balistes vetula*), sandtilefish (*Malacanthus plumieri*), redbtail parrotfish (*Sparisoma chrysopterygum*), trunkfish (*Lactophrys quadricornis*), spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) and queen conch (*Strombus gigas*). All of these species occur in the wider project area.

Under the 1998 amendment, EFH is defined everywhere the 17 selected species occur. Because these species collectively occur in all habitats of the U.S. Caribbean, the EFH includes all waters and substrates (mud, sand, shell, rock and associated biological communities), including coral habitats (coral reefs, coral hardbottoms and octocoral reefs), sub-tidal vegetation (seagrasses and algae) and adjacent intertidal vegetation (wetland and mangroves). Therefore, EFH includes virtually all marine waters and substrates from the shoreline to the seaward limit of the U.S. Caribbean Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Based on the results of the benthic survey¹, the project area is near EFH areas which consist of seagrass, muddy and sandy substrate. The abandonment of the line and removal of the manholes will allow for an expansion of seagrass along the shoreline. The removal of the potential nutrient vector will decrease the amount of eutrophic algae along the shoreline.

The proposed action is a mitigation measure that will result in a long term improvement to water quality and restoration of habitat. There may be short term localized impacts to water quality from the suspension of sediments and the introduction of nutrients into the marine environment as the manholes are collapsed. Turbidity barriers will be installed to control fine sediments and demolition will be done by hand to limit impact to surrounding environment. The best manner to control terrestrial sediment from entering the marine environments is by controlling erosion. If the soils can be prevented from entering storm water runoff, it is the most efficient way to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Therefore, the project will be constructed in a manner that will use Best Management Practices (BMP) in order to reduce erosion and thus sediment. These will include carefully installed and maintained erosion and sediment controls designed to: reduce soil erosion; reduce sedimentation; limit turbidity and siltation into Christiansted Harbor.

Pursuant to the regulations of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Act, FEMA respectfully requests the concurrence of NOAA's Fisheries Service with our determination that the applicant's proposed action may affect, but is not likely adversely affect endangered species habitat nor the Essential Fish Habitat. We have enclosed the relevant maps, sketches, and photographs that depict the location of this project.

¹ Prepared by: Bioimpact, Inc. Revised June 2014

Dr. Lisamarie Carruba
ESA, Section 7 Consultation
FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002 St. Croix, USVI
VIWMA Coastal Interceptor Relocation
November 5, 2014
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We greatly appreciate your prompt action regarding this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, José E. Ayala at 787-296-3523 or by email at Jose.Ayala3@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Alejandro R. De La Campa
Disaster Recovery Manager

Enclosures: Project location map; Site photographs

c: BG Elton Lewis, VITEMA Director
Mr. Richard T. Evangelista, Esq., Alternate GAR

JEA

From: [Ayala, Jose](#)
To: [Lisamarie Carrubba - NOAA Federal](#)
Cc: [Anabel Padilla](#); [Lia Ortiz](#); [Pace Wilber](#); [Jocelyn Karazsia - NOAA Federal](#); [Jadrosich, Megan](#)
Subject: RE: FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002, Coastal Interceptor Relocation, St. Croix, Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
Date: Monday, November 24, 2014 9:22:00 AM

Dear Lisamarie,

On behalf of FEMA's Region 2 Environmental Officer, Megan Jadrosich, this is to confirm our agreement with your below determination, and inform NMFS of our willingness to withdraw the current ESA, Section 7 consultation for the abovementioned subject.

Thank you for your time and assistance provided during our informal discussions of last week.

Sincerely,

José E. Ayala
Environmental and Historic Preservation
DHS FEMA Region II
Caribbean Area Division Office
Desk: (787) 296-3523
Iphone: (787) 405-8658

From: Lisamarie Carrubba - NOAA Federal [mailto:lisamarie.carrubba@noaa.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 5:52 PM
To: Ayala, Jose
Cc: Anabel Padilla; Lia Ortiz; Pace Wilber; Jocelyn Karazsia - NOAA Federal
Subject: FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002, Coastal Interceptor Relocation, St. Croix, Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority

Saludos José:

This is in response to your letter dated November 5, 2014, regarding the above-referenced request for funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as the agency requiring the relocation of the coastal interceptor through a consent order, requested Section 7 consultation with us pursuant to the requirements of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for this project. On October 22, 2014, the EPA withdrew its consultation request because we could find **no plausible** route of effects from the proposed action that could lead to adverse effects to any ESA-listed species under our purview that may be in the project area, specifically swimming sea turtles and corals, as well as acroporid coral critical habitat. **The** likelihood of adverse effects occurring is so extremely remote or infeasible that it is implausible to assume that the effects could occur and we do not believe an ESA Section 7 consultation is necessary for this project.

To clarify why we do not see **plausible** routes of effects from this project, we are providing the following guidance that we sent to EPA. We believe there is **no plausible** route of adverse effects or direct physical injury to any ESA-listed species in the project area from the demolition of the manholes because the majority of the work will take place in shallow seagrass beds and be done by hand. There are no ESA-listed corals or acroporid coral critical habitat in the project footprint. In addition, in places where water depths do not allow people working on the demolition to simply stand on the bottom, divers will be

used to do the work. All work will be done by hand and the only potential disturbance to the bottom will be associated with the manhole removal and collapse of the pipe into itself. Sea turtles are not likely to be present in the shallow water areas and, in deeper water, the use of the turbidity barriers will prevent them from entering the work area. Because work will be done by hand, we expect divers to be able to observe and stop work if sea turtles enter the few deeper areas. We also expect noise impacts to be short-lived and for sea turtles to simply leave the area of their volition if disturbed by demolition noise.

Please let me know if you need additional information or have any questions regarding our determination. Please also confirm whether FEMA is in agreement with our determination and willing to withdraw your consultation request for this project as the EPA did in October 2014.

Thank you,
Lee

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Dr. Lisamarie Carrubba
NOAA Fisheries
Caribbean Field Office, PRD
P.O. Box 1310
Boquerón, PR 00622
787-851-3700
787-851-5588 (fax)



FEMA

November 4, 2014

Mr. Edwin Muñiz
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Ecological Services in the Caribbean- Field Office
P.O. Box 491
Boquerón, PR 00622

ESA, Section 7 Consultation
FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002
USVI, St. Croix Coastal Interceptor Relocation
Subgrant Applicant: Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) has applied for financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for St. Croix Coastal Interceptor Relocation at La Grande Princess. FEMA is proposing to fund the project through the Hazard Mitigation Pre-Disaster Mitigation-Competitive (PDMC) Grant Program.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate mandatory consultation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The scope of work for the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project consists of easement and land acquisition (by VIWMA); clean and inspect existing sewer line with close circuit camera television; clean and abandon in place 2200 feet of existing sewer line; clean and collapse six (6) existing manholes; install 200 feet of new gravity line from MH-31 to a new lift station with required mechanical, structural, instrument, and electrical systems; install 2300 feet of new force main piping with air release valves; install new transition manhole with 600 feet of new gravity line; rehabilitate two (2) manholes; and install two (2) lateral connections to reconnect current users. Inspection and acceptance of work will be performed by the VIWMA Division of Engineering and VIWMA Division of Operations during and upon completion of the project.

The project location and route is shown on the attached location plan and topographic survey and is as follows: The beginning of the gravity line re-route starts at MH#0431 (17.7572N, 64.7237W). The proposed lift station 0.04 acre property to be acquired is at 17.7569N, 64.7244W. The proposed lift station property and structure is located near the south east

Mr. Edwin Muñiz
ESA, Section 7 Consultation
FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002 St. Croix, USVI
VIWMA Coastal Interceptor Relocation
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Page 2

boundary of the existing Nature Conservatory at Plot No. 52 La Grande Princess. The force main runs southeast through Plots 52C, 52D, 53A; it continues southeast along the boundary between Plots 222 and 223; it continues southeast at edge of Road Plot No. 236; and ends at the proposed transition manhole just northwest of the Sugar Beach Condominium Driveway (17.7524N, 64.7206W). The gravity from the proposed transition manhole runs northeast along the south boundary of the Sugar Beach Condominium Property towards the existing manhole MH#0439 (17.7534N, 64.7193W) of the Coastal Interceptor to complete the re-route.

The pump station construction will result in the permanent alteration of 0.04 acres. The construction of the pipeline will result in the temporary disturbance of 12,000ft² or 0.275 acres of previously disturbed land. Since the area has been cleared in the past, the placement of the force main and associated pump station will not result in the removal of large trees or landscape specimens, only secondary growth trees, herbaceous plants and grasses that lay along the proposed route. These species are opportunistic and will quickly recolonize the route. No planting or seeding is necessary or proposed along the narrow disturbance footprint. A portion of the route has been cleared in the spring of 2014 in association with selling, Turquoise Bay, the largest undeveloped plot the line will cross.

The beach and the offshore waters are used by endangered turtle species. These include: hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), leatherbacks (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). The turtles forage in the seagrass beds and the wide sandy beach at Sugar Bay is suitable for turtle nesting. As such, heavy equipment will not be driven on the beach. The removal of the beach manholes will most probably result in the spreading of seagrass into their footprints and the halos around them providing additional turtle forage habitat. The removal of the beach manhole will improve the beaches for turtle nesting.

The proposed action is a mitigation measure that will result in a long term improvement to water quality and restoration of habitat. There may be short term localized impacts to water quality from the suspension of sediments and the introduction of nutrients into the marine environment as the manholes are collapsed. Turbidity barriers will be installed to control fine sediments and demolition will be done by hand to limit impact to surrounding environment. The best manner to control terrestrial sediment from entering the marine environments is by controlling erosion. If the soils can be prevented from entering storm water runoff, it is the most efficient way to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Therefore, the project will be constructed in a manner that will use Best Management Practices (BMP) in order to reduce erosion and thus sediment. These will include carefully installed and maintained erosion and sediment controls designed to: reduce soil erosion; reduce sedimentation; limit turbidity and siltation into Christiansted Harbor.

Pursuant to the regulations of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, FEMA respectfully requests the concurrence of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with our determination that the applicant's proposed actions may affect, but are

Mr. Edwin Muñiz
ESA, Section 7 Consultation
FEMA, PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002 St. Croix, USVI
VIWMA Coastal Interceptor Relocation
November 4, 2014
Page 3

not likely to adversely affect endangered species. We have enclosed the relevant maps, sketches, and photographs that depict the location of this project.

We greatly appreciate your prompt action regarding this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. José Ayala, Environmental Specialist, at 787-296-3523 or by email at Jose.Ayala3@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Alejandro R. De La Campa
Disaster Recovery Manager

Enclosure: Project location map; Site photographs

c: BG Elton Lewis, VITEMA Director
Mr. Richard T. Evangelista, Esq., Alternate GAR

JEA



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services
Field Office
P.O. Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622

DEC 23 2014

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R4/CESFO/78010-058

Mr. Alejandro De La Campa
Disaster Recovery Manager
FEMA
PO Box 70105
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-8105

08 JAN 15 AM 11:47 FEMA

Re: FEMA PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002, St.
Croix Coastal Interceptor Relocation, USVI

Dear Mr. De La Campa:

This is in reply to your November 4 2014, letter requesting comments regarding Section 7 consultation for the proposed relocation of a major trunk sewer at La Grande Princess, St. Croix. Our comments are provided as technical assistance in accordance with the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., as amended).

FEMA will be providing financial assistance for the relocation of the La Grande Princess coastal interceptor, much of the existing structure is now located in the Caribbean Sea due to coastal erosion. The proposed project will move the structure further inland thus allowing for a longer project life and avoid the discharge of sewage into the marine environment. The beach areas along the project site harbor suitable habitat for nesting the hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), the turtles are also found off shore.

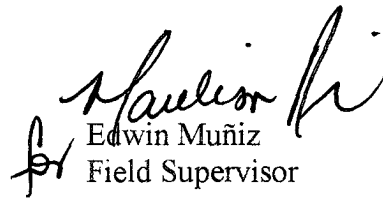
The proposed removal of manholes and other obstruction along the beach may improve sea turtle nesting habitat. The FEMA letter submitted states that no heavy equipment will be allowed to be driven on the beach. FEMA has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect nesting sea turtle species. Based on the information provided, we concur with your determination that the project is not likely to adversely affect nesting sea turtles. Therefore, there is no need for further consultation for the proposed activity. Nevertheless, if the project is modified or if information on impacts to listed species becomes available this office should be contacted concerning the need for the initiation of consultation under section 7 of the Act.

Mr. De La Campa

2

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project, if you have any questions please contact Felix Lopez of my staff at 787 851 7297 x226.

Sincerely,


Edwin Muñiz
Field Supervisor

fhl

cc:

EPA, San Juan

COE, San Juan

VITEMA, St. Thomas

CINWR, St. Croix

DFW, St. Croix

**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION**

**FORM L&WD 2
PERMIT APPLICATION**

Date Received: _____

Date Declared Complete: _____

Permit No. _____

Application is hereby made for a Earth Change/Coastal Zone Permit

1. Name, mailing address and telephone of applicant.

*Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
941-946 Estate Williams Delight
Frederiksted, St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands 00840 telephone 340 712 4962*

2. Name, mailing address and telephone number of owner of property and of developer.

Owner

Developer

Government of the Virgin Islands

*Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
941-946 Estate Williams Delight
Frederiksted, St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands 00840
340 712 4962*

See attached VIWMA Sewer Utility Easement through attached list of property owners

3. Location of activity _____

Estate Lovango Cay Island St. Croix

4. Zoning District R-3 Residential Medium Density

5. Name, mailing address and telephone number of project designer.

Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority, 941-946 Estate Williams Delight, Frederiksted
St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands 00840, 340 712 4962

6. Name, mailing address and telephone number of principal earthwork contractor.

Not yet chosen

7. Summary of proposed activity. Include all incidental improvements such as utilities, Roads, etc. (Use additional sheets if necessary).

VIWMA plans to execute the sewer line relocation project where 2200ft of the submerged Coastal Interceptor will be rerouted further inland. The scope of work for the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project consists of abandoning in place 2200ft of existing sewer line; cleaning and collapsing six (6) existing manholes; installing 200ft of new gravity line to a new lift station with required mechanical, structural, instrument, and electrical systems; installing 2300ft of new force main piping with air release valves; installing new transition manhole with 600ft of new gravity line; rehabilitating two (2) manholes; and installing two (2) lateral connections to reconnect current users.

- 7a. State type of Land Uses as specified in the VI Zoning Law, which are applied for e.g. restaurant, hotel, single dwelling, etc.

Residential Medium Density –relocation of the coastal sewer line further inland

**FORM L&WD2/PERMIT APPLICATION
CONT'D**

8. Date activity is proposed to start September 2014, be completed September 2015

9. Classification of minor or major permit. Check one:

() Minor Permit Application

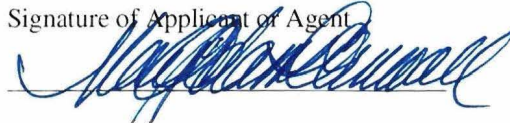
(X) Major Permit Application

State below which criterion applies in making above check.

scope of project

10. Application is hereby made for a permit to authorize the activities described herein. I agree to provide any additional information/data that may be necessary to provide reasonable assurance or evidence to show that the proposed project will comply with the applicable territorial water quality standard or other environmental protection standards both during construction and after the project is completed. I also agree to provide entry to the project site for inspectors from the environmental protection agencies for the purpose of making inspections regarding this application, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information provided herein, is true, complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the proposed activities.

Signature of Applicant or Agent



Date

2/4/15

Signature of Owner (Where Applicant
or Agent is not Owner)

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY
Inspector Record

Date Inspected: _____

() Permit Approved

() Permit Disapproved

Inspector's Remarks _____

Inspector

Date

Commissioner, Planning & Natural Resources

Date

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

The project is located in Christiansted, St. Croix within Christiansted Harbor. The Coastal Interceptor runs offshore from the eastern end of Sugar Beach to the the eastern boundary of the Nature Conservancy property. The site can be seen from the beach of Sugar Bay, Mill Harbor, and Colony Cove. These properties all are accessed by following Northside Road (RTE 75) west out of Christiansted and turning right on Breeze Road; the Coastal Interceptor runs offshore of the condominiums which lie to the west. The beginning of the gravity line reroute starts at MH#0432 (17.7567N,64.7231W). The proposed lift station (0.04 acre) easement property is at 17.7563N, 64.7241W on the north boundary of Plot No. 53 Little Princess. The force main runs towards, then along the paved road (RTE 752) to the existing manhole MH#0439 (17.7533N, 64.7193W) to complete the sewer line reroute.

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

VIWMA plans to execute the sewer line relocation project where 2200ft of the submerged Coastal Interceptor will be rerouted further inland. The scope of work for the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project consists of easement agreements and survey; clean and inspect existing sewer line with close circuit camera television; clean and abandon in place 2200ft of existing sewer line; clean and collapse six (6) existing manholes; install 200ft of new gravity line to a new lift station with required mechanical, structural, instrument, and electrical systems; install 2300ft of new force main piping with air release valves; install new transition manhole with 600ft of new gravity line; rehabilitate two (2) manholes; and install two (2) lateral connections to reconnect current users. Inspection and acceptance of work, will be performed by the VIWMA Division of Engineering and VIWMA Division of Operations during and upon completion of the project.

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

The coastal interceptor was installed along the shoreline in the late 60's or early 70's . At that time the interceptor was placed along the upper portion of the beach which had been recently nourished by the dredging of the Sand Channel to the VIWAPA dock which is located to the east of the project area. The beach has eroded since that time and the erosion was accelerated by Hurricane Hugo in 1989 and Hurricane Marilyn in 1995. Today in some areas the interceptor are more than 50ft. off shore. Because of the erosion of the shoreline the existing manholes have had to be elevated and fortified and the built up manholes are resulting in increased erosion of the seagrass beds which have colonized the inshore area. The relocation of the submerged section of the Coastal Interceptor is of crucial importance to improve the water quality of the Christiansted Harbor and improve the reliability of the LBJ Pump Station by reducing the inflow of sea water and debris that causes excessive wear and tear to the pumps. The reduction of sea water inflow will also reduce the salinity of the Anguilla WWTP effluent which will provide a new opportunity for reuse.

USE BLOCKS 20-23 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

The existing concrete manholes will be demolished and broken concrete will be used to fill the manhole voids.

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards:

| Type | Type | Type |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Amount in Cubic Yards | Amount in Cubic Yards | Amount in Cubic Yards |
| 4 cy concrete rubble collapsed into itself. | | |

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

Acres 4 square yards collapsed into itself.
or
Linear Feet

23. Description of Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensation (see instructions)

The project in itself is a mitigation project. The project is the abandonment of the existing Coastal Interceptor line which is now in the sea due to shoreline erosion. The line will be replace by an inland line which primarily lies under existing roadways. The abandonment of the line and the collapsing of the manholes to the seafloor elevation will stemmed existing erosion and allow for the re-establishment of seagrass. The abandonment of the line will stem the flow of nutrients into the sea. The removal of the manholes will remove an eyesore from the shoreline.

24. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? Yes No IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

25. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, Etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list).

a. Address-

City - State - Zip -

b. Address-

City - State - Zip -

c. Address-

City - State - Zip -

d. Address-

City - State - Zip -

e. Address-

City - State - Zip -

26. List of Other Certificates or Approvals/Denials received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application.

| AGENCY | TYPE APPROVAL* | IDENTIFICATION NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE APPROVED | DATE DENIED |
|--------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| DNPR | Major Water | | concurrent | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

* Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits

27. Application is hereby made for permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that this information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE _____
SIGNATURE OF AGENT DATE

The Application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Coastal Zone Management

No. 45 Estate Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00840

Telephone: (340) 773-1082
FAX: (340) 773-3343

May 5, 2015

May Adams Cornwall
Executive Director
VIWMA
941-946
Williams Delight
Frederiksted, VI 00840

RE: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Determination No. CZX-3-15FC

Dear Ms. Cornwall:

The Division of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) has completed review of your Federal Consistency Determination for the repairs, rehabilitation and replacement of an existing wastewater treatment system. The system is also referred to as the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project and is located, in portions of Estate la Grande Princess and Golden Rock, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

Pursuant to V.I.R & Regs. Tit. 12, Ch. 21, Subchapter 904-9, CZM concurs with your findings of *Federal Consistency Determination* for the proposed repairs, rehabilitation and replacement of an existing wastewater treatment system (Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project), in Estates La Grande Princess and Golden Rock, St. Croix, Virgin Islands

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jean-Pierre Oriol, Director, CZM at (340) 774-3320 or Norman Williams, Assistant Director, CZM at (340) 773-1082.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dawn L. Henry".

Dawn L. Henry, Esq.
Commissioner, DPNR

cc: file

Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority Coastal Interceptor Relocation Company Quarter St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

| REVISION | | |
|----------|----------|------------------------|
| NO. | DATE | REMARKS |
| 1 | 05/21/15 | ISSUE FOR CONSTRUCTION |
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| | | |
| | | |

ST. CROIX
COASTAL
INTERCEPTOR
RELOCATION



VIWMA
VIRGIN ISLANDS WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY
941-946 Estate Williams Delight
Frederiksted, VI 00840
Telephone: 340.712.4982



COMPANY QUARTER
ST. CROIX, USVI

DATE: 05/10/15

DRAWN BY: T. U. ALBANY NICHOLAS

CHECKED BY: JAMES GRUM, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

APPROVED BY: MAY ADAMS CORNWALL, P.E.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PROJECT NO:

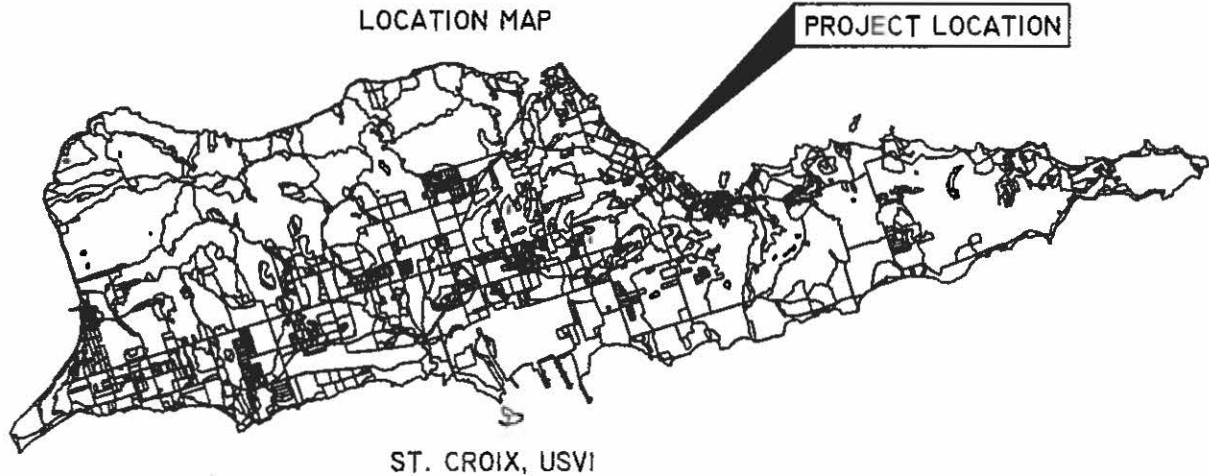
SHEET NO: OF

SEWER LINE
PLAN AND PROFILE



VIRGIN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COASTAL ZONE PERMIT NO. 21-3-15FC
This permit is approved, subject to conditions if any pursuant to
Chapter 21 Title 12, Virgin Islands code
Conditions: No
Yes, on this plan or an attached
Permit document.
Date: 5/21/15 Commissioner: [Signature]

| INDEX OF DRAWING | |
|------------------|--|
| DWG NO. | DESCRIPTION |
| CS | COVER SHEET |
| DWG NO. 2 OF 6 | OVERALL PLAN |
| DWG NO. 3 OF 6 | PLAN STA 0+00 TO STA 10+51 & SEWER PROFILES |
| DWG NO. 4 OF 6 | PLAN STA 10+51 TO STA 11+59 & SEWER PROFILES |
| DWG NO. 5 OF 6 | PLAN STA 11+59 TO STA 22+01 & SEWER PROFILES |
| DWG NO. 6 OF 6 | PLAN STA 22+01 TO STA 27+79 & SEWER PROFILES |



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT
 33 CFR 325. The proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

OMB APPROVAL NO. 0710-0003
 EXPIRES: 28 FEBRUARY 2013

Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 11 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of the collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters, Executive Services and Communications Directorate, Information Management Division and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0710-0003). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. Please DO NOT RETURN your form to either of those addresses. Completed applications must be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103, 33 USC 1413; Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers; Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332. Principal Purpose: information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of a public notice as required by Federal law. Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued. One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and/or instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. APPLICATION NO. | 2. FIELD OFFICE CODE | 3. DATE RECEIVED | 4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------------|

(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5. APPLICANT'S NAME First - May Middle - Adams Last - Cornwall Company - Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) E-mail Address - macornwall@viwma.org | | | 8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (agent is not required) First - Amy Middle - Claire Last - Dempsey Company - Bioimpact, Inc. E-mail Address - bioimpact@islands.vi | | |
| 6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: Address- 941-946 Estate Williams Delight City - Frederiksted State - VI Zip - 00840 Country - USA | | | 9. AGENT'S ADDRESS: Address- P.O. Box 132 Kingshill City - St. Croix State - VI Zip - 00851 Country - USA | | |
| 7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOS. w/AREA CODE a. Residence b. Business c. Fax 340 712 4962 340-719-1835 | | | 10. AGENTS PHONE NOS. w/AREA CODE a. Residence b. Business c. Fax 340 690-8445 340 718-3800 | | |

STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

11. I hereby authorize, Amy Claire Dempsey to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see instructions) Coastal Interceptor Relocation | | | |
| 13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable) Christiansted Harbor | | 14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable) Address Christiansted | |
| 15. LOCATION OF PROJECT Latitude: -N 17 43.324 Longitude: -W 64 43.248 | | City - St. Croix State - VI Zip - 00820 | |
| 16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instructions) State Tax Parcel ID N/A Municipality Section - Township - Range - | | | |

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

The project is located in Christiansted, St. Croix within Christiansted Harbor. The Coastal Interceptor runs offshore from the eastern end of Sugar Beach to the the eastern boundary of the Nature Conservancy property. The site can be seen from the beach of Sugar Bay, Mill Harbor, and Colony Cove. These properties all are accessed by following Northside Road (RTE 75) west out of Christiansted and turning right on Breeze Road; the Coastal Interceptor runs offshore of the condominiums which lie to the west. The beginning of the gravity line reroute starts at MH#0432 (17.7567N,64.7231W). The proposed lift station (0.09 acre) easement property is at 17.7563N, 64.7241W on the north boundary of Plot No. 53 Little Princess. The force main runs towards, then along the paved road (RTE 752) to the existing manhole MH#0439 (17.7533N, 64.7193W) to complete the sewer line reroute.

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

VIWMA plans to execute the sewer line relocation project where 1900ft of the submerged Coastal Interceptor will be rerouted further inland. The scope of work for the Coastal Interceptor Relocation Project consists of easement agreements and survey; clean and abandon in place 1900ft of existing sewer line; demolish six (6) existing manholes; install 300ft of new gravity line to a new lift station with required mechanical, structural, instrument, and electrical systems; install 2500ft of new force main piping with air release valves; install new transition manhole with 600ft of new gravity line; rehabilitate two (2) manholes; and install two (2) lateral connections to reconnect current users. Inspection and acceptance of work, will be performed by the VIWMA Division of Engineering and VIWMA Division of Operations during and upon completion of the project.

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

The coastal interceptor was installed along the shoreline in the late 60's or early 70's . At that time the interceptor was placed along the upper portion of the beach which had been recently nourished by the dredging of the Sand Channel to the VIWAPA dock which is located to the east of the project area. The beach has eroded since that time and the erosion was accelerated by Hurricane Hugo in 1989 and Hurricane Marilyn in 1995. Today in some areas the interceptor are more than 50ft. off shore. Because of the erosion of the shoreline the existing manholes have had to be elevated and fortified and the built up manholes are resulting in increased erosion of the seagrass beds which have colonized the inshore area. The relocation of the submerged section of the Coastal Interceptor is of crucial importance to improve the water quality of the Christiansted Harbor and improve the reliability of the LBJ Pump Station by reducing the inflow of sea water and debris that causes excessive wear and tear to the pumps. The reduction of sea water inflow will also reduce the salinity of the Anguilla WWTP effluent which will provide a new opportunity for reuse.

USE BLOCKS 20-23 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

The submerged sewer line will be abandoned in place. At each manhole, the ends of the sewer line will be capped off and the base of the existing concrete manholes will be filled with flow fill concrete. The remaining walls and top of manholes will be demolished in pieces, hand carried out of the water, and placed in a truck for disposal.

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards:

| Type | Type | Type |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Amount in Cubic Yards | Amount in Cubic Yards | Amount in Cubic Yards |
| 7.2 cubic yards of flow fill concrete. | | |

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

Acres
or
Linear Feet

23. Description of Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensation (see instructions)

The project in itself is a mitigation project. The project is the abandonment of the existing Coastal Interceptor line which is now in the sea due to shoreline erosion. The line will be replaced by an inland line which primarily lies under existing roadways. The abandonment of the line and the demolition of the manholes to the seafloor elevation will stemmed existing erosion and allow for the re-establishment of seagrass. The abandonment of the line will stem the flow of nutrients into the sea. The removal of the manholes will remove an eyesore from the shoreline.

24. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? Yes No IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

25. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, Etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list)

a. Address-

City - State - Zip -

b. Address-

City - State - Zip -

c. Address-

City - State - Zip -

d. Address-

City - State - Zip -

e. Address-

City - State - Zip -

26. List of Other Certificates or Approvals/Denials received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application.

| AGENCY | TYPE APPROVAL* | IDENTIFICATION NUMBER | DATE APPLIED | DATE APPROVED | DATE DENIED |
|--------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| DNPR | Major Water | | concurrent | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

* Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits

27. Application is hereby made for permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that this information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE



SIGNATURE OF AGENT

06-11-15

DATE

The Application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

Dluzak, Catherine

From: Lisamarie Carrubba - NOAA Federal <lisamarie.carrubba@noaa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Ayala, Jose
Cc: Sasso, Johann M SAJ; Anabel Padilla
Subject: Coastal Interceptor Project, St. Croix, USVI

Saludos José:

I am writing as a follow up to our conversation this afternoon regarding the above-referenced project. Based on the information you provided regarding the change in the project, the cement debris from the existing manholes will now be removed rather than used to backfill the pipeline below the manholes. The pipe that will remain buried in the nearshore environment will instead be filled with flocfill. This does not change the project scope significantly. Therefore, our position remains the same regarding this project - no ESA Section 7 consultation is required because we can find no plausible route of effects to ESA-listed species that may be in the project area.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Lisamarie

--

Dr. Lisamarie Carrubba
NOAA Fisheries
Caribbean Field Office, PRD
P.O. Box 1310
Boquerón, PR 00622
787-851-3700
787-851-5588 (fax)

Dluzak, Catherine

From: Rivera, Marelisa <marelisa_rivera@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2015 11:21 AM
To: Ayala, Jose
Cc: Angel Colon-Santiago; Felix Lopez
Subject: Re: Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority Coastal Interceptor project

Jose:

We have reviewed the changes of the project submitted in your email. The proposed changes do not alter the section 7 consultation concluded in 2014. The consultation was based on the project nature and conservation measures proposed by FEMA.

No further action is needed.

Thanks, marelisa

On Tue, Jul 14, 2015 at 9:46 AM, Ayala, Jose <Jose.Ayala3@fema.dhs.gov> wrote:

Ms. Marelisa Rivera
Deputy Field Supervisor
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Boqueron, Puerto Rico

Re: FEMA PDMC-PJ-02-VI-2014-002

USVI, St. Croix Coastal Interceptor

FWS/R4/CESFO/78010-058

Good morning Marelisa:

This notification is a follow up to your ESA Section 7 consultation response letter of December 23, 2014. Since then, the Applicant has presented changes in the scope of work with the relocation of the lift station some 225 feet to the south. The proposed new lift station will be placed at coordinates 17.756330, -64.724132. Due to the change in the lift station location, the beginning of the re-route will now occur at MH432 (coordinates 17.756724, -64.723180), not at MH0431. There are approximately 370 feet of gravity line from MH0432 to lift station. From

the lift station the force main sewer line runs southeast for approximately 900 feet to route 752. The force main continues east for some 280 feet along route 752 then turns south and continues as previously planned.

The overgrown dirt path leading to the location of the new lift station would be cleared during construction and would remain a dirt/grass road following construction to provide access to the lift station. Electrical service to power the lift station is also anticipated to follow this dirt path. The project requires obtaining easements from private property owners to install portions of the line. This alternative is cost effective and meets the project purpose and need. As the Applicant is proposing a design-build contract, this route is subject to minor modifications during the final design.

Once the new line is brought online, the existing line from MH 0432 to MH 0439 (approximately 1,900 feet) would be flushed clean with a water hose at atmospheric pressure prior to any demolition. No chemicals would be used during the cleaning process to minimize any potential impact to the marine environment. The submerged sewer line would be abandoned in place. At each manhole, the ends of the sewer line would be capped off and the base would be filled with concrete flow fill by hose from a pump truck ashore. The remaining walls and top of manhole would be demolished in pieces, carried out of the water by hand, and placed in a truck for disposal. To minimize environmental impacts, all demolition would be executed with hand tools. The end product would result in a filled concrete top of structure located two (2) feet below the sea floor (Figure 1). The two ends of the sewer line that are connected to the manholes that will remain in service (MH 0432 and MH 0439) would be capped off with concrete. This would result in an abandoned pipeline where seawater and sand would move freely in and out of any cracks. Turbidity curtains would be installed around the manholes to contain dispersion of floating debris or silt in the water.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed changes. Should you have any question please contact me through phone or email at your convenience.

Cordially,

José E. Ayala

Environmental Specialist/Field Manager

FEMA Region 2

Caribbean Area Division

IP: 787-405-8658

Desk: 787-296-3523

Dluzak, Catherine

From: Lia Ortiz - NOAA Affiliate <lia.ortiz@noaa.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 4:54 PM
To: Ayala, Jose
Cc: jocelyn.karazsia@noaa.gov; Lisamarie Carrubba (lisamarie.carrubba@noaa.gov); Pace Wilber - NOAA Federal
Subject: Re: Waste Management Authority coastal interceptor project, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

Hello Jose,

After reviewing the proposed modifications to this project, NMFS position as indicated in our July 21, 2014 letter-no impacts to EFH expected-remains the same once the proposed BMPs, i.e. turbidity curtains and removal of debris by hand, are employed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Regards,
Lia

On Mon, Jul 13, 2015 at 6:09 PM, Ayala, Jose <Jose.Ayala3@fema.dhs.gov> wrote:

Ms. Lia Ortiz

NOAA EFH

USVI, St. Croix

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

This is to follow up our phone conversation this afternoon regarding the notification of minor changes in the scope of work for the demolition of six manholes and abandonment of 2,200 feet of wastewater interceptor that is currently submerged in the Caribbean Sea approximately 50 feet offshore from Sugar Bay Beach and the Colony Cove area at Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Currently under NEPA review by FEMA, as the federal funding agency, the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) proposal has suffered minor changes since it was evaluated by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under an EPA grant application by letter dated July 21, 2014 (F/SER47:LO/pw) attached.

The VIWMA has presented changes in the scope of work within NMFS's jurisdiction. The submerged sewer line will be cleaned and abandoned in place. At each manhole, the ends of the sewer line would be capped off and the base would be filled with concrete flow fill. The remaining walls and tops of the six manholes would be demolished in pieces with hand tools, carried out of the water by hand, and placed in a truck for disposal. To

minimize environmental impacts, all demolition would be executed with hand tools. The end product would now result in a filled concrete top of structure located two (2) feet below the sea floorboards (see Typical Manhole Demolition Detail in *Figure 1*). The two ends of the sewer line that are connected to the manholes that will remain in service (MH 0432 and MH 0439) would be capped off with concrete. This would result in an abandoned pipeline where seawater and sand would move freely in and out of any cracks. Turbidity curtains would be installed around the manholes to contain dispersion of floating debris or silt in the water.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed changes. Should you have any question please contact me through phone or email at your convenience.

Cordially,

José E. Ayala

Environmental Specialist

FEMA R2

Caribbean Area Division

[787-296-3500](tel:787-296-3500)

--

Lia A. Hibbert

Contractor

ECS Federal, Inc.

In support of

NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program

NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office

Almeric Christian Federal Building

3013 Estate Golden Rock Rm. 314

Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI 00820-4226

Office: (340)718-1236

Cell: (305)213-3089