



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
441 G STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECW-SAD

24 July 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

SUBJECT: Caloosahatchee River West Basin Storage Reservoir (C-43 WBSR), Florida  
Validation Report

1. Purpose. To provide for your review the enclosed C-43 WBSR Validation Report. The report documents the need to increase the authorized project cost from \$626,600,000 (October 2013 price level) to \$1,006,933,000 (October 2019 price level).
2. Post Authorization Change. This Validation Report presents a revised cost estimate and updated analysis of the authorized project in order to request authorization of a new project cost. The increase in cost is needed to complete construction. The Validation Report does not include any new plan formulation and there are no changes in the project location, purpose, or scope. Remaining features of the project cannot be fully implemented until the new project cost is authorized. The current total project first cost estimate is \$1,006,933,000 (October 2019 price level). The current Section 902 limit for the C-43 WBSR Project is \$866,655,000 (October 2019 price level).
3. National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) Plan. The recommended plan is the NER Plan. It is within the scope of the currently authorized project and is supported by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) (non-federal sponsor).
4. Project Authorizations. The C-43 WBSR Project Implementation Report/Environmental Impact Statement was completed in 2010. The associated Chief's Report was signed in March 2010. A supplemental Chief's Report was completed in January 2011 to clarify the authority for cost sharing of the recreational features recommended for the project and to update project costs. The ASA(CW) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reviews were completed and the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in April 2011. Congress authorized the project in Section 7002 (5) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014) (Public Law 113-121), enacted on 10 June 2014. The project is authorized at a total cost of \$626,600,000, with an estimated federal cost of \$313,300,000 and an estimated non-federal cost of \$313,300,000.
5. Status of Project Construction. A Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) was executed on 2 June 2016 and the project is in the construction phase. The non-federal sponsor for the project, the SFWMD, is performing all design and construction features for the full project as in-kind work under the PPA. SFWMD has been advised of the risk of not being credited for costs above the Section 902 limit if the authorized project cost is not changed. All contracts have been awarded for the project as of March 2019. To date, the S-476 irrigation pump station has been constructed and construction of the S-470 main intake pump station and the main embankment is ongoing. The estimated completion date of the project is December 2023.

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6. Economic Evaluation. The authorized project remains cost effective and the predicted benefits continue to support its justification at the increased total project cost estimate. At Fiscal Year 20 price levels, the average annual cost is \$42,943,000 with the average annual cost/average annual habitat unit lift of \$3,353.

7. Environmental Considerations. There are no unresolved environmental considerations associated with the authorized project. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document for the C-43 WBSR project was an environmental impact statement with a ROD signed April 2011. Since then, there has not been any additional updates to the NEPA documents. The existing NEPA documents for the project have been reviewed and they adequately identify the environmental impacts of the project.

8. Conclusions. The Validation Report was prepared in accordance with ER 1105-2-100, Appendix G, dated 30 June 2004, to document the increases in the project cost and recommend an increase in the authorized project cost. The Cost Engineering Mandatory Center of Expertise, Agency Technical Review, was completed and certified on 27 September 2019. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers policy and legal compliance review of the Validation Report concluded there are no unresolved policy issues and the project is technically sound, environmentally acceptable, and economically justified.

9. Recommendations. I have reviewed the Validation Report and recommend the report be transmitted to Congress as a basis for increasing the authorized project cost of the C-43 WBSR project to \$1,006,933,000 (October 2019 price levels).



ALVIN B. LEE  
Director of Civil Works

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