



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 26, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Continental Ranch Regional Pump Station Pumping Capacity Failure**

The Board of Supervisors August 1, 2017 Addendum will include a Contract Amendment Ratification Request for Contract CT-WW-17-380 to PCL Construction, Inc. The contract amendment was necessary following the declaration of an emergency due to a pumping capacity failure at the Continental Ranch Regional Pump Station. Immediately addressing this failure was necessary to avoid a significant violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

Failure of most of the pumping capacity occurred on July 18, 2017, the second of catastrophic mechanical failure at this facility in the past 23 months. At that time, an emergency was verbally declared by the Board Chair and myself.

Two floors of a three-floor underground pumping station were flooded by sewage, which threatened to overflow the facility and discharge into the Santa Cruz River, a Water of the United States protected by the CWA. The discharge of raw sewage to the Santa Cruz River would have been a specific violation of the CWA and would have subjected the County to significant civil and criminal penalties.

The contract amendment provided for a flow management system to remove the excessive sewage from the pumping station and allowed the source of the failure, a flex coupling on the drywell side of the pump station, to be detected and repaired. This pump bypass system will continue to be used and in place for facility rehabilitation, while PCL rehabilitates the 1987-built pump station to continue long-term expected service life.

The PCL Construction contract amendment also includes 1) installation of the flow management pumps and piping, 2) cleanup of the sewage flooded areas, and 3) stabilization and isolation of the pump station equipment.

As the Board can see, the emergency declaration and contract amendment were appropriate and in the best interests of the County and the public to protect public health and prevent significant County violations of the CWA.

CHH/mjk

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Tom Burke, Deputy County Administrator for Administration
Nanette Slusser, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works
Jackson Jenkins, Director, Regional Wastewater Reclamation