



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council  
New Orleans, LA 70130

April 20, 2023

Mr. Shawn Hamilton  
Secretary  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Dear Secretary Hamilton:

As the chairperson of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, I am pleased to approve the Florida State Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 5 submitted pursuant to the Spill Impact Component of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (33 U.S.C. §1321(t) and note).

This approval is based on the finding from the council's executive director, Mary S. Walker, that the amendment is complete and meets all requirements set forth in the RESTORE Act, the Department of the Treasury's implementing regulations (31 C.F.R. Part 34) and the council's SEP guidelines. On behalf of the council, I commend Florida and the Gulf Consortium for developing the amendment, which will contribute substantially to the cause of Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration.

The council is committed to ensuring an efficient and effective process for funding the activities in the Florida SEP as amended. Approval and disbursement of funding for specific activities in the SEP will be done through the grant process and federal standards established in 2 C.F.R. Part 200. Please note that funds for implementation of activities in the approved amendment will be disbursed after grant approval and Florida's verification of compliance with all applicable federal environmental and other laws. Council staff is available to assist you with this grant process to help ensure that it proceeds as expeditiously as possible.

Our collective efforts under the RESTORE Act will help to ensure the long-term health and resilience of the Gulf Coast ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Janet G. McCabe  
Chairperson  
Deputy Administrator,  
Environmental Protection Agency