



The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
New Orleans, Louisiana

May 21, 2015

Ms. Mimi A. Drew
Designee of the Governor of Florida
to the Gulf Restoration Council
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Drew:

Thank you for your submission of the Florida Gulf Consortium's planning State Expenditure Plan for review and approval. As the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's (Council) chairperson, I am pleased to approve this planning State Expenditure Plan based on the Council staff's finding that it is complete and meets all requirements contained in the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act), the Council's State Expenditure Plan Guidelines, the Department of Treasury's implementing regulations (31 C.F.R. Part 34), the Council's Final Rule on the RESTORE Act Oil Spill Impact Component Planning Allocation (80 FR 1584), and the Council's Request for Applications for Planning Grants (79 FR 78779).

Approval of the Florida planning State Expenditure Plan does not constitute approval of specific procurement procedures, cost estimates, budget items, or pre-award costs detailed in the planning State Expenditure Plan. Review of a detailed budget, procurement procedures, and requests for approval of pre-award costs will be evaluated when a grant application is submitted under the standards established in 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

I applaud the Gulf Consortium's endeavor to execute a transparent process and develop a thoughtful plan to restore the ecosystem and economy of Florida's Gulf Coast. Our collective efforts under the RESTORE Act will help to ensure the long-term health, prosperity, and resilience of the Gulf Coast.

Sincerely,

Penny Pritzker

Chairperson

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council