



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
New Orleans, LA 70130

June 18, 2018

Mr. Johnny Bradberry
Chair
Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
P.O. Box 44027
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Mr. Bradberry:

As chair of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, I am pleased to approve the Louisiana State Expenditure Plan Amendment (Parish Matching Opportunities Program) 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).

This approval is based on the finding from the council's Executive Director, Ben Scaggs, that the SEP amendment is complete and meets all requirements contained in the RESTORE Act, the U.S. 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 Louisiana for developing an SEP amendment that will help advance the cause of Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration.

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

Once again, I applaud Louisiana on the development of a thoughtful and effective SEP amendment. Our collective efforts under the RESTORE Act will help to ensure the long-term health and resilience of the Gulf Coast ecosystem.

Respectfully yours,

E. Scott Pruitt
Chair