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FREDERICA S. WILSON CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES 24th District, Florida DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE, REGION VIII

U.S. COMMISSION ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS FOUNDER AND CHAIR

> Congressional Black Caucus Secretary

> > FLORIDA PORTS CAUCUS FOUNDER AND CHAIR

CAUCUS ON THE U.S. COMMISSION ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS FOUNDER AND CHAIR

May 19, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Remediation of 127th Street Canal - Opa Locka in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory & Economic Resources, located at 111 NW 1st Street, 11th Floor, Miami, FL 33128. This funding is a valuable use of taxpayer funds as the 127 St. Canal, south of NW 127 St., Opa Locka, runs E/SE into Little River Canal, which flows into Biscayne Bay. It conveys stormwater, maintains the groundwater (GW) table, and prevents saltwater intrusion in Biscayne Aquifer. Former Minton's Dump, abutting the Canal, operated from 1960s - 1980s accepting trash, debris, and auto byproducts, used as on-site lakefill. As a result, the Canal turns an orange/brown (O/B) color at the Dump, dissipating > 5,000 ft downstream. Surface water (SW) samples from the Canal document elevated iron, chlorophyll, and phosphorus, contributing to downgradient impacts and exceeding State criteria, approved by EPA under the Clean Water Act. GW assessment in 2021 at facilities next to the Canal revealed elevated levels of metals, PAHs, TDS, ammonia and PFAS, impacting the shallow aquifer; iron the likely contributor to the O/B color. This project will address the SW violations by stopping the SW-GW interaction that contaminates the 127 St. Canal, improving water quality by eliminating impacts and abating the visual nuisance of the O/B color of the Canal. This year's appropriation will be used for more assessment/remediation. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Friderica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson Member of Congress

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