

## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399 Ron DeSantis Governor

Jeanette Nuñez Lt. Governor

Shawn Hamilton Secretary

June 1, 2023

Shailesh K. Patel, M.Sc., CPSSc. 4643 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Unit 302 Port Orange, FL 32129 PH: (386) 304-6505 <a href="mailto:spatel@dmces.com">spatel@dmces.com</a>

Dear Mr. Patel:

Please be advised that the Department of Environmental Protection has received a petition for administrative hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, challenging the Department's permitting decision in DEP Permit No. FL-479 AR (a copy of the petition is enclosed). Therefore, the Department's action on this matter is proposed agency action only, and no permit has been issued. See McDonald v. Dep't of Banking & Finance, 346 So. 2d 569 (Fla. 1st DCA 1977). Accordingly, no action may be taken based on the above permit application, until the Department enters a Final Order either issuing or denying the above permit, under Chapter 161, Florida Statutes. As the permit applicant, you must demonstrate prima facie entitlement to the permit issuance in any administrative hearing held under the filing of the petition. See § 120.569(2)(p), Fla. Stat.; Dep't of Transp. v. J.W.C. Co., 396 So. 2d 778 (Fla. 1st DCA 1981).

The Office of General Counsel, located at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Tel. (850) 245-2242, will notify you whether a formal administrative hearing will be conducted regarding your permit application. The case has been assigned OGC Case No. 23-0869. Please send all correspondence to the undersigned attorney at the Office of General Counsel in Tallahassee. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely, /s/ Cameron Bertron Assistant General Counsel <u>Cameron.Bertron@FloridaDEP.gov</u> (850) 245-2294

cc: Jacob Varn, Attorney for Petitioner, <u>jvarn@MansonBolves.com</u>
Douglas Aarons, DEP Program Administrator, <u>Douglas.Aarons@FloridaDEP.gov</u>

Enc. Petition for Formal Administrative Hearing