



News Release

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Emerald Coast Utilities Authority Announces Wastewater Connection from NAS Pensacola to Bayou Marcus Water Reclamation Facility

ECUA Wastewater Service Eliminates Effluent Discharge into Pensacola Bay...

PENSACOLA— In May 2007, the U.S. Navy began exploring the possibility of connecting Naval Air Station Pensacola's (NASP) sewer system to the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA) Bayou Marcus Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). At that time, sewer service was provided by an existing wastewater treatment facility on NASP, with effluent disposal into Pensacola Bay. The Navy, under a Consent Order from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, was instructed to cease discharge to Pensacola Bay. On Thursday, July 30, 2009, ECUA began accepting wastewater from NASP to the Bayou Marcus WRF and effluent disposal into local waters ceased immediately.

Sewer service for NASP required the construction of several pump stations and installation of new force mains to convey the sewage to the Bayou Marcus WRF drainage basin. ECUA will also benefit from the installation of the new off-base pump stations and force mains, which will provide an increased capacity backbone of the ECUA collection system along Blue Angel Parkway.

"This is a win-win situation allowing the U.S. Navy to meet the requirements of the FDEP Consent Order and the ECUA to receive an added revenue stream with minimal operational expenses at our Bayou Marcus WRF," said Bill Johnson, ECUA director of engineering.

About ECUA: Originally founded as the Escambia County Utilities Authority in 1981. The ECUA is a local governmental body, existing under the laws of the State of Florida and provides sanitation, water, and wastewater services. The ECUA's name was officially changed to the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority on June 29, 2004.

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