



March 25, 2025

Brevard County Utility Services Department
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, A-213
Viera, FL 32940-6602

Attention: Edward Fontanin, PE
Director, Brevard County Utility Services

Subject: Mims Potable Water Service Area
Recommendation for Single-source Modular Filter Procurement

The Brevard County Utility Services Department owns and operates the potable water system serving the utility's customers in the City of Mims Service Area. The Mims potable water supply system consists of source water supply wells, a treatment plant, and a distribution piping network serving an estimated population of 9,200. Utility Services Department (USD) leadership has identified the Mims Service Area as a system in need of significant improvement, with respect to both the existing conditions, as well as to position the system for anticipated, significant growth over the coming years.

Black & Veatch has been providing consulting engineering services for projects to improve the existing Mims Water Treatment Plant (WTP) for over two years, and was selected as the consulting team for planning and implementation of expansion of the Mims water system to meet current demands and future growth.

Critical infrastructure elements within the WTP that will require improvements to ensure the facility continues to produce finished water include the plant's two softener-clarifiers. While the structure of the clarifiers remains sound, the mechanical equipment within the structures is beyond its useful life (nearing 30 years in age since installation) and is nearing the point of failure. As part of the current services to Brevard County at the Mims WTP, Black & Veatch has initiated the design of clarifier improvements, including complete replacement of the mechanical equipment in question.

In this regard, Black & Veatch researched multiple providers of softener-clarifier equipment, and identified one particular vendor (WesTech) as the recommended approach for rehabilitation of the existing units at the Mims WTP. While a number of clarifier equipment vendors exist, this particular vendor appears to be unique in that WesTech is the provider of the current clarifier equipment at the Mims WTP, and would thus be replacing their existing systems with more modern technology. As such, Brevard County would benefit from WesTech's unique knowledge of the existing structures, and their overall proven delivery of systems to several County water and wastewater facilities. Such an approach would also minimize structural changes necessary to accommodate the new equipment. Furthermore, the Mims WTP staff are familiar with WesTech's equipment operations, which would thus eliminate the need to transition to new protocols and equipment maintenance procedures.



Of particular interest in the analysis was the significantly reduced time it would take to complete clarifier improvements (and return the Mims WTP to full treatment capacity) if an owner direct furnish approach was implemented ahead of contractor selection. The shorter schedule is important considering the Mims WTP is being relied upon to deliver water to a growing service area, with demands expected to increase significantly, even within the next few years. Selection of WesTech for this owner direct furnish approach reduces risks associated with equipment ordering by relying on the vendor with a unique level of knowledge of the existing system conditions.

Based on the need for a compressed schedule to restore treatment capacity, and the unique position in the industry currently held by WesTech, Black & Veatch recommends the purchase and installation of a WesTech equipment package for clarifier rehabilitation at the Mims WTP. Furthermore, to allow for the shortest possible schedule of implementation, it is further recommended that Brevard County pursue a single-source procurement of the equipment as quickly as possible, to facilitate initiation of fabrication for this long-lead time delivery (22-24 weeks).

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (407) 419-8005.

Very truly yours,

BLACK & VEATCH

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Murin, Jr.", with a stylized, cursive script.

James R. Murin, Jr., P.E.
Project Manager