

August 2, 2022

Sent via email: [Terri.Breeden@brevardfl.gov](mailto:Terri.Breeden@brevardfl.gov)

Terri Breeden  
Brevard County Natural Resources Management  
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**Subject: AECOM Sole Source Justification for Innovative Technologies for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Project (Mobile Algae Harvesting to Reduce the Spread and Public Exposure to HABs in Brackish Waterways)**

Dear Ms. Breeden:

AECOM Technical Services Inc. (AECOM) congratulates Brevard County for being awarded a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) under the Innovative Technology Grant Program for the project, *Mobile Algae Harvesting to Reduce the Spread and Public Exposure to HABs in Brackish Waterways*. AECOM is pleased that Brevard County has recognized our unique technical capabilities and staff qualifications and intends to contract with AECOM to meet the program requirements.

AECOM is the only company, to our knowledge, that can provide a “shovel-ready” HFT algae harvesting system to Brevard County to satisfy the project requirements within the specified timelines. AECOM's HFT unit is a proprietary design and is patent-pending. Additionally, our field staff have proven technical competence in safely providing HAB mitigation services with this unique technology platform, including the use of the unit from a barge. Our specialty sub-contractors (already under contract) also offer similarly unique HAB-related services; all of which have proven experience on other algae harvesting projects undertaken by AECOM in both Florida and New York. Prior proven experience using this highly specialized HFT technology is vital to the success of this proposed effort.

The proprietary nature of the technology and the unique qualifications and experience of AECOM staff and our sub-contractors in its operation and maintenance provides the need to contract this project on a sole/single source basis. Supporting this is the fact that AECOM has been awarded several sole-source contracts for the same HAB-related algae harvesting services:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Environmental Research Development Center (ERDC) awarded a sole-source contract to AECOM to conduct a proof-of-concept HAB mitigation pilot demonstration of wild algae using AECOM's HFT unit at Lake Okeechobee, FL in 2019. With the success of that project, USACE ERDC again awarded a sole source contract in 2020 to AECOM to further the research at Saddle Creek, FL and Lake Chautauqua, NY. The projects were executed safely and achieved stated goals. A copy of the full USACE reports be downloaded from:

- Harmful Algal Bloom Interception, Treatment, and Transformation System, "HABITATS": Pilot Research Study Phase I - Summer 2019 (Report Number: ERDC TR-20-1) - <https://erdc-library.erdc.dren.mil/jspui/handle/11681/35214>
- Optimizing the Harmful Algal Bloom Interception, Treatment, and Transformation System (HABITATS) (Report Number: ERDC TR-21-18) - <https://erdc-library.erdc.dren.mil/jspui/handle/11681/42223>
- The State of New York, Office of General Services awarded a \$581,000 sole-source contract (September 2019) to AECOM to conduct a proof-of-concept wild algae HAB mitigation pilot demonstration at Lake Agawam, Village of Southampton, New York. The project was safely completed and provided laboratory analyses strongly supporting the efficacy of the AECOM technology and approach for intact algal cell recovery technology to support HAB mitigation and nutrient removal.
- The St. Johns River Water Management District was awarded an Innovation Technology Grant by the FDEP in 2020 for the *Lake Jesup HFT Harmful Algal Bloom Project*. The District subsequently awarded AECOM a sole-source contract for \$1,646,630 for AECOM to conduct a 7 month field test using its marine barge mounted mobile harvester. The project was safely completed and strongly supported freshwater use of the AECOM technology.
- The Northwest Florida Water Management District was awarded an Innovation Technology Grant by the FDEP in 2020 for the *Lake Munson and Apalachee Regional Park (ARP) HFT Harmful Algal Bloom Project*. The District subsequently awarded AECOM a sole-source contract for \$1,646,630 for AECOM to conduct a 9 month field test using its land-based 1 Million Gallon per Day (MGD) harvester. The project was safely completed and strongly supported the large-scale use of the AECOM technology.

We look forward to working with you and your team in executing this important research project. Please contact me or Tammy Karst-Riddoch at 519-504-0563 if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



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