

August 4, 2017

Jennifer Hyde IRC Purchasing Manager 1800 27th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960

Subject: Continuing Environmental and Biological Support Services for Civil and Environmental

Engineering Projects on an Annual Contractual Basis for Miscellaneous Projects in Indian

River County, Florida, IRC-1720, RFQ #: 2017053

Dear Ms. Hyde:

Please accept this letter as Florida Environmental Consulting's aggrieved protest of the final selections for the list of Continuing Environmental and Biological Support Services contractors requested in the subject RFQ.

We would also like to take this opportunity to detail our appeal, to the Selection Committee and to the Board of County Commissioners.

The recommendations in my humble opinion represent a potential oversight of the County in allowing representation by all of the qualified small local firm respondents. As such I also don't believe it aligns with the mission of the board.

Specifically our protest appeal is based on a couple administrative points:

- 1. The list of selected contractors includes 3 large National or State level firms mostly without local offices at all, and only 1 local small company.
- **2.** The public opportunities for small qualified firms with locally headquartered offices are by nature limited and then further limited but such prohibitive lists.

In summary, we believe first, knowing there are County projects that can utilize our small local firms, the opportunity could be extended to 5 firms in the same way other County departments have selected each the qualified firms with locally headquartered offices. More-over we believe the currently recommended list with minimal local representation does not represent the mission of this Commission nor the community. Those grievances together are what we believe substantiate our protest, and as such we humbly suggest an alternate resolution. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Timothy E. Maslin, C.E.S., C.E.C.

President