

Office of INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ATTORNEY

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney William K. DeBraal, Deputy County Attorney Kate Pingolt Cotner, Assistant County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Board of County Commissioners

FROM:

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney

DATE:

August 24, 2018

SUBJECT:

In Re: Liquid Aluminum Sulfate Antitrust Litigation

BACKGROUND.

The above-referenced litigation involves liquid aluminum sulfate, which is used for a variety of uses including, treating drinking water, controlling algae, and treating wastewater. The plaintiffs have alleged that certain parties had participated in a conspiracy to allocate territories, rigging bids, allocating customers, and price fixing. The parties have agreed to settle the case. The settlement includes the requirement that the various companies will collectively pay \$10,796,800 in cash and up to \$13,527,400 from a sale of all or substantially all of GEO Specialty Chemicals, Inc.'s equity interests.

The Indian River County Board of County Commissioners ("Board") has until October 2, 2018 to ask to be excluded from the class or object to the settlement. No action is required in order to stay in the settlement class. If the Board decides to stay in the settlement class, the County will have until December 17, 2018 to file a claim. The Board also has the right to file an objection to the proposed settlement by September 29, 2017. If the Board decides to stay in the settlement class, the Board will relinquish its right to file a lawsuit concerning the issues and claims at stake in the litigation.

FUNDING.

There is no funding associated with this item if the Board decides to stay in the settlement class and file a claim.

RECOMMENDATION.

The County Attorney's Office recommends that the Board vote to stay in the settlement class and file a claim.

ATTACHMENT(S).

Notice of Settlement