



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

September 18, 2017

The Honorable Rick Scott  
Office of the Governor  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Scott:

Thank you again for your March 23, 2017 letter requesting that the Ridge Road Extension project in Pasco County, Florida be identified as a high priority infrastructure project pursuant to Executive Order 13766. As we indicated in our earlier letter responding to your request, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has been working with other Federal agencies, including the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (Permitting Council), to align various permitting improvement and infrastructure initiatives.

On August 15, 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13807 which directs Federal agencies to use existing coordination provisions to expedite the environmental review requirements for priority infrastructure projects. Under Executive Order 13807, projects which meet the criteria for, and are subject to, 23 U.S.C. 139 (Transportation Projects), 33 U.S.C. 2348 (Water Resource Development Projects), or 42 U.S.C. 4370m *et. seq.* (Covered Projects under Title 41 of the FAST Act) will qualify as high priority infrastructure projects. Additionally, the Executive Director of the Permitting Council may determine that other projects, subject to special environmental review and authorization streamlining processes, also qualify as high priority infrastructure projects.

CEQ has reviewed the Ridge Road Extension project in Pasco County, Florida which was the subject of your March 23 letter. Based on that review, CEQ has notified the Executive Director of the Permitting Council that the Ridge Road Extension project may qualify as a high priority infrastructure project. A representative of the Permitting Council will be reaching out to your office with more information on this project's eligibility.

Sincerely,



Mary Neumayr  
Chief of Staff

CC: Janet Pfleeger, Acting Executive Director of the Federal Permitting  
Improvement Steering Council  
Douglas Hoelscher, Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director  
of White House Intergovernmental Affairs