

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventh Coast Guard District

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16591/2457/St. John River
24 July 2013

MEMORANDUM

From: Barry Dragon, Director Bridge Branch
U. S. Department of Homeland Security
U. S. Coast Guard

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Dragon".

Reply to D7(dpb)
Attn of: Evelyn Smart
(305) 415-6989

To: Mary D. Hassell, U. S. Department of Transportation

Subj: COOPERATING AGENCY ACCEPTANCE FOR THE ALL ABOARD FLORIDA
PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE BETWEEN ORLANDO AND MIAMI, FLORIDA

1. This is to affirm our designation as Cooperating Agency for the proposed All Aboard Florida Passenger Rail Service between Orlando and Miami, Florida. Miss Evelyn Smart will be the project manager representing the Bridge Program, will attend all scheduled meetings, and will review the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents regarding the subject bridge projects. Please forward all correspondence regarding the Passenger Rail Service to her attention at the above address.
2. The St. Johns River and Hillsboro Canal are Navigable Waters of the United States and the proposed bridge projects are subject to Coast Guard Bridge Permitting jurisdiction.
3. We are requesting that you include in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) under "Affected Environment" a section entitled "Navigation" to ensure that the DEIS fully meets our needs. This section shall include the following:
 - a. Navigation studies providing current data concerning marine traffic in the vicinity of the proposed bridge crossings.
 - b. A description of the existing and future characteristics of the St. Johns River and Hillsboro Canal and connecting waterways, channel conditions, requirements for vessel movements, vessel traffic, and vessel sizes and capacity.
 - c. Address any restrictions on marine traffic including natural and man-made obstacles and hazards to navigation.
 - d. Describe the projection of future marine traffic on the both waterways without the development of the proposed project.Also include in the DEIS under "Environmental Impacts and Mitigation" a section entitled "Navigation". This section shall include construction impacts and mitigation.
4. You may call Miss Smart at (305) 415-6989 if you have any questions..

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