

I.O. 10/14/19

City of Coconut Creek InterOffice Memorandum

To: Linda Jeethan, Purchasing and
Contracts Manager

Date: October 14, 2019

From: Jean Dupuis, Assistant Director of
Utilities

Subject: Spectrum Lab – Single
source Vendor

J. Dupuis
10/14/19

Recommendation:

I recommend Florida Spectrum Environmental Services, Inc., be used as a single source vendor to conduct drinking water analysis.

Background:

There are two professional laboratories certified to perform drinking water analysis in our immediate area: Florida Spectrum Environmental Services, Inc., in Fort Lauderdale and Pace Analytical Services, Inc., in Pompano Beach. Both are within 5 miles of the City of Coconut Creek and capable of completing our laboratory analyses. Because of the relatively low annual cost of our drinking water analysis (approximately \$20,000 +/-) coupled with the City's close working partnership with Florida Spectrum; I would not recommend changing lab at this time. Florida Spectrum has been the City's laboratory of choice for more than 15 years and has been responsive to various needs with quick sampling turnaround and has been a true partner in the regulatory compliance.

The City benefits from laboratory reports in the format required for regulatory reporting to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) utilizing proper Chain of Custody, and to the City Utilities Engineer's knowledge, there has never been an incident with this laboratory that has led to questionable non-compliance. In addition, this laboratory works closely with City personnel to advise of any condition which could lead to an actual or potential non-compliance. Changing lab will require City staff to learn how to deal with a new company, which is not without some risk as instances of false positives can occur with Total Coliform (BacT's). Vice versa, a new lab would not be familiar with our current sampling programs and personnel. Any mistake made with Total Coliform would trigger Level 1 and/or 2 Assessments which would require notifications to all water customers (12,000 +) followed by notes on the Annual Water Quality Report along with potential enforcement actions, including fines and a "Boil Water Order," which is not a good scenario.

I do believe it is in the best interest of the City to continue services with Florida Spectrum. If further information is necessary, please do not hesitate to contact me.