

## CITY OF LA GRULLA, TEXAS



### PHASE 3 WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM – I DESIGN PROJECT

#### **Bi-Weekly Design Progress Meeting #8**

**April 23, 2007 – 10:00 AM (CST)**

**Via Conference Call**

**Toll-Free Dial In Number: (800) 416-4956**

**Participant Code: 36335319#**

#### **Meeting Minutes**

Naismith Engineering, Inc., (NEI) Project Engineer, Jose R. Rodriguez, P.E., called to order the Bi-Weekly Design Progress Meeting #8 for the City of La Grulla - Phase 3 Wastewater Collection System – I Design Project.

The following persons were present:

Javier Torres, Project Manager/BECC  
Blanca Juarez, Colonia Initiatives Advocate/Secretary of State  
Anna A. Smith, P.E., Project Manager/NEI  
Jose R. Rodriguez, P.E., Project Engineer/NEI

1. Jose R. Rodriguez started with Agenda Item 1 - Administrative Items, Comments on Previous Meeting; there were no comments.
2. Under Agenda Item 2 - Progress Since Previous Meeting, NEI indicated that the City of La Grulla, NEI, Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc., and BECC met with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Staff on April 17, 2007 to discuss submitting an EDAP Application for Planning, Design, and Acquisition Funding for the Proposed Water and Wastewater System Improvements Project. The Applications will need to prepare and/or include the following items:
  - Water Use Survey;
  - Prepare a “Draft” Water Conservation Plan/Drought Contingency Plan w/Utility Profile and Region “M” Notification;
  - Update/Amend the Facility Engineering Plan (FEP) and Environmental Information Document (EID) to include the updated costs, population/flow projections, maps, and schedule;
  - Submit Procurement and SMWBE Documentation;
  - An Affidavit from the Starr County Judge indicating that the County continues to enforce the current Model Subdivision Rules;
  - Formal Financial Assistance request from the City; and
  - Other General, Legal, and Fiscal Information.

BECC asked about the status of the City's Audit and other information needed for CRG to initiate the Water and Sewer Rate Study. SOS indicated that they would meet with the City to assist them in getting their information together for CRG. SOS also indicated the USDA-RD in Rio Grande City would like to meet with the City and NEI to discuss if the City still intends on moving forward with an USDA-RD Application for the City's Project. NEI indicated that they are recommending the City implement Funding Plan "A," where the City will hopefully receive EDAP Funding (at least Planning, Design, and Acquisition) for all four (4) Phases of the Water and Wastewater System Improvements (Phase 1 – Water System Improvements; Phase 2 – Wastewater Treatment Plant; Phase 3 – Wastewater Collection System I; and Phase 4 – Wastewater Collection System II). NEI feels that obtaining EDAP Funds for the Project will provide the City with the “most” grant funds to design and construct the Project. However, we anticipate that the City will request 306C Funding from USDA-RD for the Hook-Ups. The Hook-Up Funding for this Project will be significant (~ \$1,200 \* ~ 1,900 Connections = \$2,280,000). If EDAP Funding does not go through, we will move to a Funding Plan "B," where we anticipate the City requesting funds from USDA-RD for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and/or other portions of the Project along with requesting funds from the TWDB (CWSRF) and the NADBank (BEIF). Therefore, we do anticipate that USDA-RD will participate on this Project in some capacity. Then, we all discussed the different funding requirements and strategies for obtaining funding from the TWDB, NADBank, and USDA-RD. USDA-RD would like to meet the week of April 30<sup>th</sup>; SOS indicated that they would notify everyone about the Proposed Meeting. NEI also mentioned that the La Grulla Area has been flown and the data is currently being converted to Digital Data. Once it has been provided to JES, NEI will have an Initial Alignment Meeting to prepare the 30% Drawings.

3. Under Agenda Item 3 - Planned Activities for the Week, NEI indicated that they intend to continue to coordinate with all of the Funding Agencies. Under the MSR requirements, we will need for the Starr County Judge to prepare an Affidavit indicating that the County still is following MSR requirements.
4. Under Agenda Item 4 - Coordination Activities, the Quarterly Interagency Meeting hosted by the SOS will be held on April 24, 2007. BECC will discuss the La Grulla Project with the group.
5. Under Agenda Item 5 - Schedule Assessment, NEI updated the Schedule and posted it on the WebSite.
6. Under Agenda Item 6 - Existing and Potential Problems, Conflicts, and Issues, there were no comments.
7. Under Agenda Item 7 - Other Discussion Items, there were no comments.
8. Under Agenda Item 8 - Website Issues, there were no comments.
9. Under Agenda Item 9 - Next Progress Meeting, the next Bi-Weekly Design Progress Meeting (#9) is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2007 @ 10:00 AM (CST). NEI will send out an MS Outlook Conference Call Meeting Notice and Agenda prior to the next Meeting.
10. Action Item:
  - SOS will work with the City to prepare the documentation needed for the CRG Prepared Rate Study.