



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

January 21, 2020

Callie DeHaven, Director
Division of State Lands
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Subject: Gulf Power - North Florida Resiliency Connection Project Easement Request – Wakulla State Forest (WaSF, Lease No. 4287 and 2346), Lake Talquin State Forest (LTSF, Lease No. 3971 and 4211), and Plank Road State Forest (PRdSF, Lease No. 4806)

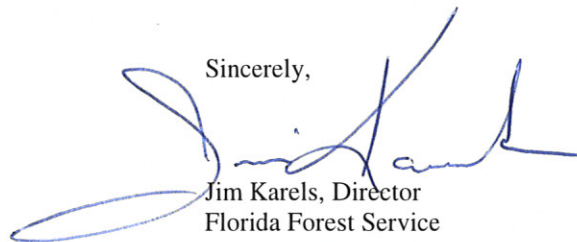
Ms. DeHaven:

The Florida Forest Service (FFS) has reviewed Gulf Power's proposal (attached) regarding the proposed easements located on portions of WaSF, LTSF, and PRdSF in Leon and Jefferson Counties. The FFS prefers this type easement not be located on FFS managed lands, as this may disturb those natural communities present in the easement area. However, in this instance, the FFS understands that suitable substitutes may not exist.

The FFS will look to the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of State Lands to negotiate the terms and conditions of the easement and an agreeable net positive benefit for the state forests. FFS staff will assist by providing input into the resources involved and any mitigation that is deemed necessary for making this a successful transaction.

Please keep us apprised of the progress as this request moves through the process. Should we be of further assistance, please contact Alan Davis at (850) 681-5816.

Sincerely,



Jim Karels, Director
Florida Forest Service

JRK/ad

cc: Keith Rowell, Land Programs Administrator, FFS
Brian Camposano, Assistant Bureau Chief, FFS
Chris Colburn, Center Manager, FFS
Michael Harrington, Senior Consultant, Golder Associates Inc.

Attachment