



Progress Being Made on Cypress Lake Lower Floridan Aquifer AWS Project

Cypress Lake is a multijurisdictional Lower Floridan aquifer alternative water supply project being developed by the Water Cooperative of Central Florida, which includes the City of St. Cloud, Toho Water Authority (Toho), Orange County Utilities, Polk County Utilities and Reedy Creek Improvement District, with Toho serving as the project administrator.

The Cypress Lake Lower Floridan aquifer water supply project will provide 30 million gallons per day (mgd) of water to meet future projected water supply needs and ensure a sustainable water supply for the region. The Cypress Lake project includes three Lower Floridan aquifer water supply wells, a reverse osmosis water treatment plant, a concentrate disposal well, and associated monitoring wells.

The Cypress Lake Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant will treat 37.5 mgd of raw brackish groundwater with a project yield of 30 mgd of finished water when fully built out. The first phase of the project, anticipated to be constructed by 2028, will have an approximate capacity of 7.5 mgd. The Cypress Lake Wellfield, including a concentrate disposal well, a monitoring well, and three Lower Floridan aquifer production wells, are anticipated to be constructed by late 2024.

Toho recently completed the concentrate disposal well (CDW) along Lake Cypress Road in Osceola County. Toho began construction of the CDW in January 2021 and it was completed in May 2022, with the final casing set to 2,160 ft. below land surface (bls). Toho completed testing and water quality sampling to confirm confinement and that the well was suitable for operation as a CDW.

The monitoring well for the CDW is under construction and is currently at 1,650 ft. bls. The monitoring well will be constructed to a final depth of approximately 1,950 ft. bls and is anticipated to be completed by April 2023. Toho is currently in the process of obtaining the necessary property for the construction of the three Lower Floridan aquifer wells and the future water treatment plant.

This project has been supported with multiple grants from the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida. In December 2019, Toho was awarded approximately \$2.56 million for the construction of the CDW and the monitoring well. In June 2020, Toho was awarded an additional \$3 million for the construction of the three Lower Floridan aquifer production wells. The CDW and monitoring well cost is approximately \$5.5 million with approximately \$2.19 million distributed to date. Upon

completion of the monitoring well and three Lower Floridan aquifer production wells, Toho will receive the remaining \$3.36 million.

In addition, improvements are being made to interconnections (and water distribution systems) by Water Cooperative of Central Florida partners to convey the finished water from this alternative water supply source to their customers.