Date: April 23, 2026 Transmitted via Email

**RE: Southeast Water Production Facility PRWC Project – AIS Waiver Request for Back Flow Preventer**

To Whom it May Concern,

The Southeast Water Production Facility is owned by Polk Regional Water Cooperative. This project is funded in part by the FDEP State Revolving Fund, State Application Identifier # [redacted] and is required to follow American Iron and Steel requirements. The contractor for this project is Florida Water Partners (FWP), and the engineer is TeamOne Engineers. FWP is requesting an EPA availability waiver from the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements for all reduced pressure zone backflow preventers on the job. The full list of backflow preventers requesting to be waived from the AIS requirements are listed below.

| Back Flow Preventer | Reason |
|---|---|
| 06" Back Flow Preventer | Not produced domestically |

The information below is provided to meet the requirements for the AIS Waiver request checklist.

**Background:**
The Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) project in Lake Wales is a regional alternative water supply initiative designed to provide a long-term, sustainable drinking water source for Polk County and its member utilities. The project centers on construction of the Southeast Water Production Facility, an advanced reverse osmosis (RO) treatment plant that will withdraw brackish water from the Lower Floridan Aquifer, treat it to potable standards, and initially produce approximately 7.5 million gallons per day, with expansion capacity up to about 12.5 MGD. The development also includes a wellfield, raw water transmission mains, approximately 60+ miles of finished water pipelines to distribute water to participating communities, and a deep injection well system for concentrate disposal. Funded through a combination of state appropriations, water management district grants, and federal financing, the project is intended to reduce reliance on the Upper Floridan Aquifer and provide a drought-resilient water supply to support the region's continued growth, with construction underway and full operation anticipated later this decade.

**Reason for Waiver Request:**
Florida Water Partners was informed by [redacted] and [redacted] (Pipe Vendors) that this size of backflow preventer is not produced domestically, see letter in Attachment A.

Backflow preventers are required on the jobsite to prevent contamination of the potable water lines throughout the plant; thus, backflow preventers are a necessary part of the plant.

Florida Water Partners has worked with [redacted] to do their due diligence in attempting to procure these backflow preventers within AIS requirements. Due to the above-mentioned lack of production, Florida Water Partners is proposing that the foreign backflow preventers listed above may be allowed for use on this project.

**Foreign and Domestic Construction Materials:**
Description of construction materials of pertinent backflow preventers.

**Foreign: (proposed)**

| Back Flow Preventer | Estimated Value |
|---|---|
| 06" Back Flow Preventer | [redacted] |

**Domestic: (to be replaced)**

| Back Flow Preventer | Estimated Value |
|---|---|
| 06" Back Flow Preventer | N/A |

Florida Water Partners and the project team are respectfully requesting to use foreign backflow preventers on the water lines at the Polk Regional Water Cooperative Project. If you have any questions regarding the approval of the waiver or information provided within, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Ted Dundas
Project Manager
Florida Water Partners

This waiver request was submitted to the EPA by the state of Florida and applies only to the project in the subject line. All supporting correspondence and/or documentation from contractors, suppliers or manufacturers included as a part of this waiver request was done so by the recipient to provide an appropriate level of detail and context for the submission. There may be documents with project diagrams, schedules, and supplier correspondence in formats that do not meet the Federal accessibility requirements for publication on the Agency's website. Hence, these exhibits have been omitted from this waiver publication. They are available upon request by emailing DWSRFWaiver@epa.gov.

# SECTION 40_05_52

# SPECIALTY VALVES

## PART 1 GENERAL

### 1.01 SUMMARY

A. Section includes: Specialty valves.

B. As specified in Section 40_05_51.01 - Common Work Results for Valves.

### 1.02 REFERENCES

A. American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE):
   1. 25 - Earthquake-Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Devices.

B. American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME):
   1. B16.42 - Ductile Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings: Classes 150 and 300.

C. American Water Works Association (AWWA):
   1. C511 - Standard for Reduced Pressure-Principle Backflow-Prevention Assembly.
   2. C800 - Underground Service Line Valves & Fittings (Also Included: Collected Standards For Service Line Materials).

D. ASTM International (ASTM):
   1. A48 - Standard Specification for Gray Iron Castings.
   2. A126 - Standard Specification for Gray Iron Casting for Valves, Flanges, and Pipe Fittings.
   3. A276 - Standard Specification for Stainless Steel Bars and Shapes.
   4. A536 - Standard Specification for Ductile Iron Castings.
   5. B584 - Standard Specification for Copper Alloy Sand Castings for General Application.
   6. D2000 - Standard Classification System for Rubber Products in Automotive Applications.

E. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA):
   1. 250 - Enclosures for Electrical Equipment (1000 V Maximum).

### 1.03 SUBMITTALS

A. Submit as specified in Section 01_33_00 - Submittal Procedures.

B. Product data: As specified in Section 40_05_51.01 - Common Work Results for Valves.

C. Commissioning submittals:
   1. Backflow preventer certification.

2. Provide Manufacturer's Certificate of Installation and Functionality Compliance as specified in Section 01_75_17 - Commissioning.

## 1.04 WARRANTY

A. Provide warranty as specified in Section 01_78_36 - Warranties and Bonds.

# PART 2 PRODUCTS

## 2.01 BFP 900 - BACKFLOW PREVENTERS

A. Manufacturers: One of the following or approved equal:
1. [redacted] backflow prevention:
   a. Model 825Y for 1/2-inch through 2-inch.
   b. Model 825YD for sizes larger than 2-inch.
2. [redacted]
   a. Model 975XL for 1/2-inch through 2-inch.
   b. Model 975 for sizes 2 1/2 inch, 3 inch, 8 inch, and 10 inch.
   c. Model 375 and 375DA for sizes 4 inch and 6 inch.
3. [redacted]: Series 909.

B. Design: Reduced pressure chamber type in accordance with AWWA C511.

C. Include shutoff valves at each end of backflow preventer with properly located test cocks.

D. Shutoff valves:
1. Backflow preventers 2-inch and smaller: Provide with full-port, quarter turn, resilient seated ball valves.
2. Backflow preventers larger than 2-inch: Provide with resilient seated, outside stem and yoke gate valves.

## N/A 2.02 BFP 901 – STAINLESS STEEL BACKFLOW PREVENTER

A. Manufacturers: One of the following or approved equal:
1. [redacted]

B. Design: Reduced pressure chamber type in accordance with AWWA C511. Flange dimensions in accordance with AWWA Class D.

C. Materials:
1. Internal metal parts: 300 Series stainless steel.
2. Main valve body: 300 Series stainless steel.
3. Check assembly: Noryl.

D. Include shutoff valves at each end of backflow preventer with properly located test cocks.