

## *Final Report*

### Hamilton County - Special Permits 03-1

LHC staff conducted phone and/or office interviews with Commissioner Travis Erixton, District #4, Louie Goodin - County Coordinator, and Scott Shirley regarding local mining and reclamation. There were no issues of noncompliance regarding this permit; however, the following general concerns were reported:

- Continuing to reduce the amount of and the County's exposure to un-reclaimed and/or released lands.
  - Nutrien reports the amount of financial obligation that Nutrien has regarding FDEP Wetlands Resource Permit #0144913 through 2021 is \$11,545,683.
  - Nutrien reports the amount of financial obligation that Nutrien has to Hamilton County regarding Hamilton County Mining Ordinance (as amended by Ordinance #2016-01) through year 2021 is an additional \$11,019,967.
  - On December 8, 2022, Nutrien provided Hamilton County a Standby Trust Agreement and an Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit, #OSB267175NYA from The Bank of Nova Scotia.
- Ongoing concerns regarding the profile, height, and slope of phosphogypsum stacks during final closure.

### SRWMD - Consumptive Use Permits No. 2-84-00703.004

LHC conducted a phone interview with Warren Zwanka, P.G., Resource Management Division Director at the Suwanee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to review the status of active water use permits. On August 8, 2012, PCS consolidated three Consumptive Use Permits No. 2-05-00091, 2-84-00703R, and 2-84-00701R into one Consumptive Use Permit No. 2-84-00703.004. This permit expires on March 8, 2025. Nutrien–White Springs currently has up to 62 production wells, ranging from 4 to 28 inches in diameter.

Nutrien voluntarily reduced water allocation by ten percent from the previous water allocations as part of ongoing regional water supply planning efforts in northeast Florida. Consumptive Use Permits No. 2-84-00703.004 currently allocates an average 84.16 million gallons per day of groundwater withdrawal. Nutrien reports that, in practice, actual groundwater use is approximately 25 to 30 million gallons per day.

Additionally, Nutrien continues to be actively participating in *The North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership*, between FDEP, SJWMD, and SRWMD. Nutrien has been supplying groundwater and water use data and technical support to assist in determining water supply needs for the Suwanee River region. These data contributed to the development of the North Florida-Southeast Georgia (NFSEG) regional groundwater flow model designed to better predict and assess potential water