Will this use interfere with any presently existing legal use of water? [ref. subsection 40B-2.301(1)(b)]

No. Project withdrawals were modeled and showed a simulated Upper Floridan aquifer drawdown of less than 0.5 foot at the project boundary. Therefore, groundwater withdrawals at this project are not expected to interfere with any presently existing legal uses of water.

Will this use be consistent with the public interest? [ref. subsection 40B-2.301(1)(c)]

Yes. The use of water for agricultural purposed is consistent with the public interest.

Will this use be in such a quantity that is necessary for economic and efficient use?

[ref. subsection 40B-2.301(2)(a)]

Yes. Water use consistent with the aforementioned supplemental irrigation models is economic and efficient. The permittee will implement the following water conservation measures for the agricultural uses: checking daily for irrigation leaks and repairing them as needed, using new or retrofitted pivot irrigation systems and efficiency testing those systems every five years to maintain an 80% distribution uniformity, burying irrigation pipe to prevent damage, using UF-IFAS and NRCS-approved methods and soil moisture probes for scheduling irrigation, using conservation tillage and cover crops to increase soil health and the soil water holding capacity, operating with a pump safety shutdown in the event of an irrigation system malfunction, and irrigating at night and when the wind is less than 5 mph when feasible.

Will the source of the water be suitable for the consumptive use? [ref. subsection 40B-2.301(2)(c)]

Yes. Staff determined the Upper Floridan aquifer is suitable for the consumptive use.

Will the source of the water be capable of producing the requested amount? [ref. subsection 40B-2.301(2)(d)]

Yes. Staff determined the Upper Floridan aquifer is capable of producing the requested amounts.