

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.
MyFloridaTriumph.com

Mr. Bill Williams
RESTORE Act Coordinator
Walton County Board of County Commissioners
76 North 6th Street
DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32433

January 9, 2019

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for submitting an application for funding to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. We appreciate your time and effort and your commitment to creating a better Northwest Florida.

As you may know, Triumph Gulf Coast has received many more requests for funding than can be supported with the resources available to us. Unfortunately, after a thorough review by our professional advisors, it does not appear that your proposal meets our purposes and requirements for substantially improving the economy of the eight counties disproportionately affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

We are required by law to score each application as to its likely return on investment and potential for diversifying and enhancing our regional economy. Proposal # 108, "Walton County Board of County Commissioners US 331 & US 90 Water/Wastewater Expansion", was scored as a C based on the economic impact information provided in the application.

Proposals with a score of C, D, or F will not be recommended to our Board of Directors. There is no certainty that all A and B scored proposals will be funded.

The information provided in the application did not identify the specific number of high-paying jobs that would be created under the proposal. Additionally, it appears that the proposed project supplants spending that would normally be financed by local government sources, including revenue bonds (to be paid off by charges to water users), impact fees (also paid by users) or other local sources, and Triumph Gulf Coast funding would simply be used to offset costs that would otherwise be funded by local government sources. Supplanting of other sources of funding is specifically prohibited by statute.

As you are aware, Triumph Gulf Coast is not the only source of funds arising from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. The RESTORE Act, a federal law, provides \$6.2 billion to coastal states, counties and communities for environmental projects and other needs. RESTORE Act funds may be a more appropriate source of revenue for this proposal.

We appreciate your participation and welcome any future proposals that more closely fulfill the purposes and requirements of Triumph Gulf Coast.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan J. Skelton".

Susan Skelton
Executive Director