



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3104

September 30, 2020

Mr. Neil Anthony Sims  
CEO, President  
Ocean Era, Incorporated  
P.O. Box 4239  
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745

Subject: Final Issuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Number  
FL0A00001 Velella Epsilon

Dear Mr. Sims:

Enclosed are the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, fact sheet, and appeal procedures for the above-referenced facility. The permit issuance constitutes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's final permit decision in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 124.15(a). The permit will become effective 30 days after the service of this notice of the permit decision, provided that a request for review of the permit decisions is not received by the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board under 40 C.F.R. § 124.19 (see enclosed document titled "Appeal of NPDES Permits"). Other supporting documents for the permit issuance are available on EPA's website.<sup>1</sup>

Please note, the EPA has converted to an electronic data reporting system for NPDES permits instead of submitting written paper reports such as Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs). The permit requires electronic submittals of DMRs using the EPA's net DMR tool. More information regarding electronic submittals can be found in Part II of the permit. Please also be aware that the permit requires four plans that must be provided to the EPA within 90 days of permit issuance and approved by the EPA prior to discharge. The four plans required by the NPDES permit are: 1) Environmental Monitoring Plan; 2) Best Management Practices Plan; 3) Facility Damage Prevention and Control Plan; 4) Quality Assurance Project Plan.

Further information on procedures pertaining to the filing of a request for review of the permit decision or other legal matters relative to the issuance of this permit may be obtained by contacting Mr. Paul Schwartz, Associate Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9576 or by email at [Schwartz.Paul@epa.gov](mailto:Schwartz.Paul@epa.gov). For information regarding technical aspects of the permit, please contact Mr. Kip Tyler of my staff at (404) 562-9294 or by email at [Tyler.Kip@epa.gov](mailto:Tyler.Kip@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

**JEANEANNE  
GETTLE**

Digitally signed by  
JEANEANNE GETTLE  
Date: 2020.09.30 15:49:14  
-04'00'

Jeaneanne M. Gettle, Director  
Water Division

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/ocean-era-inc-velella-epsilon-aquatic-animal-production-facility-national-pollutant>

Enclosures (3)

1. Final NPDES Permit
2. Fact Sheet
3. Appeal Procedures

cc: Ms. Katy Damico, USACE (via email)  
Ms. Jessica Beck-Stimpert, NMFS (via email)  
Mr. Jeffrey Howe, USFWS (via email)  
Mr. Charlie Culpepper, F ACS (via email)  
Mr. Marc Harris, FDEP (via email)