To Whom It May Concern:

This scoping letter is being promulgated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (Corps) in compliance with public coordination requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this correspondence is to formally initiate the scoping process as defined by 40 CFR 1501.7 for the Miami Harbor Navigation Improvements Study, Miami-Dade County, Florida. The purpose of the scoping period is to commence the public process for the generation of a NEPA document to assess the effects of the potential navigation improvements to Miami Harbor.

A scoping meeting to present and discuss the production of a NEPA document for the feasibility study will be held November 7, 2018 at Cruise Terminal F on PortMiami (1103 North Cruise Boulevard; Miami, Florida 33132) with complimentary parking in Lot G. There will be two meetings to allow for the greatest public participation, the first taking place from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm and the second from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The information presented at both meetings will be the same. The purpose of the scoping meeting is to aid in determining the scope of the analysis and any potentially significant issues. This process is also to help identify alternatives and information needed to evaluate alternatives. The alternatives being considered currently include: 1) No Action; 2) widening and/or deepening of specific areas within Miami Harbor’s federally authorized channels, including:

- Outer Entrance Channel Flare
- Outer Entrance Channel
- Elbow
- Fisherman’s Channel
- Dodge-Lummus Island Turning basin

Issues that are anticipated include concern for hardbottom/reef communities, water quality and sedimentation associated with dredging operations, seagrasses, threatened and endangered species, and cultural, commercial, and recreational resources.

We welcome your views, questions, comments, concerns and suggestions. The Corps believes that this study will benefit significantly from your involvement. Letters of comment or inquiry should sent to CESAJ-MiamiHarbor@usace.army.mil or be addressed to the letterhead address to the attention of the Planning Division, Environmental Branch and received by this office within 30 days of the date of this letter.
If you have questions, please contact Ms. Terri Jordan-Sellers at phone number (904) 232-1817, or email at Terri.Jordan-Sellers@usace.army.mil. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Gina P. Ralph, Ph.D.
Chief, Environmental Branch