

RC Rivers Coalition

Save Our River! Stop the Discharges!

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January 11, 2010

Secretary Michael Sole
Office of the Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 3560
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Chairman Kay Buchanan
Environmental Regulation Commission
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000,

Dear Secretary Sole and Chairman Buchanan:

RE: Proposed Statewide Stormwater Rule, Chapter 62-347, F.A.C.

On behalf of Rivers Coalition, thank you for having Chad Kennedy from the Southeast District Office give us an informative update on the progress of the proposed State Stormwater Rule. The Rivers Coalition is an organization of businesses, environmental & civic groups representing over 300,000 individuals. We are dedicated to restoring and protecting the St. Lucie estuary and Indian River Lagoon.

At the Rivers Coalition's last meeting we voted unanimously to support the DEP's efforts to create a new stormwater rule, provided that the rule will have the effect of reducing nutrient pollution from new development to our local estuaries. New stormwater criteria is critical toward fostering a more ecologically balanced ecosystem.

The Rivers Coalition is supportive of the basic concept of assuring that post-development nutrient loads not exceed pre-development nutrient loads.

The Rivers Coalition will continue the fight for a safe, healthy and ecologically balanced St. Lucie Estuary and Indian River Lagoon. We encourage DEP to implement strong regulations to protect Florida's estuaries.

We also encourage our government to provide solid and continuing funds to promulgate and maintain strict enforcement of these anti-pollution measures.

Sincerely,



Leon Abood
Chairman, Rivers Coalition

cc: William C. Kennedy, FDEP