



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

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Apportionment and Redistricting

SENATOR ROD SMITH  
5th District

July 9, 2001

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ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION DEPT

Secretary David Struhs  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Dear Secretary Struhs:

I am in receipt of a letter from the Alachua County Commission Chair, David Newport, in which he outlines several points of concern he has regarding air and water quality regulation on both the State and Federal levels. Commissioner Newport has asked that I assist in resolving what he views as a serious lapse in keeping our natural resources free from contamination and insuring the safety of our citizens as a whole.

Specifically, the Commissioner is concerned with the absence of any consideration atmospheric discharges have on surface waters during any air permitting process. It is his view that the definition of "discharge" in the Clean Water Act needs to be expanded to include these particulates. Further, to require sources that are permitted under the Clean Air Act to demonstrate compliance with water quality standards.

Commissioner Newport also suggests a requirement that major stationary sources of pollution reduce, over time, the amount they discharge in order to keep their permit current. Finally, he points to a disconnect between State and Federal regulators, which, given the current Administrations in Washington and Tallahassee, a concerted effort might be undertaken to open up the lines of communication.

REPLY TO

- 2727 NW 43rd Street, Suite 2A, Gainesville, Florida 32606 (352) 375-3555
- 220 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5020

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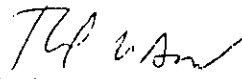
FAYE W. BLANTON  
Secretary

DONALD SEVERANCE  
Sergeant at Arms

Struhs Ltr.  
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From my perspective, many of these points have merit. Therefore, I am asking for your input on these proposals. As Chief Environmental Regulator for our State, I know your opinion will have a great deal of impact during the discussion.

Sincerely,



Rod Smith

cc: Chairman David Newport  
Randall Reid, County Manager  
Chris Bird, Director of Environmental Protection  
David Schwartz, Assitant County Attorney