

# External Affairs Communications



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 1, 2001**  
**CONTACT: Joe Bakker (850) 488-8217 or Lucia Ross (850) 488-1073**

### **DEP takes swift action to prevent serious problems** *-- Environmental security to be maintained at troubled phosphate plants --*

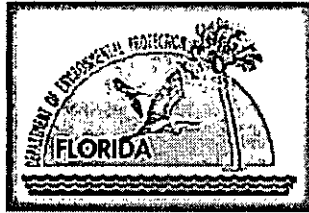
**TALLAHASSEE** – The Department of Environmental Protection has announced that it is moving swiftly to prevent potentially serious environmental problems at two phosphate and chemical plants in Southwest Florida. This action became necessary when the Mulberry Corporation informed the Department that financial difficulties would prevent it from providing the necessary environmental security at two of its affiliated plants, Mulberry Phosphates and Piney Point Phosphates.

Following Mulberry's January 30, 2001 notification to DEP, the Department made the decision to retain a contractor with significant expertise to assist in developing an action plan that would involve both the short-term and long-term management of the sites.

"The difficulties facing the Mulberry Corporation must not be allowed to create difficulties for the residents of the affected areas," said Department of Environmental Protection Secretary David B. Struhs. "We are not acting to study the problem, but will instead work with all concerned to take action and keep this as a story for the business and financial section rather than becoming environmental news."

The Department's action plan, with input from a qualified engineering firm, will quickly determine what is required to secure the sites environmentally, and identify the funding needed to maintain adequate on-site personnel in order to ensure environmental security.

Mulberry Phosphates is located on State Road 60 in Polk County and Piney Point is located in Manatee County, just south of Tampa.



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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 21, 2001

**CONTACT:** Lucia Ross, DEP (850) 488-1073  
 John Joyce, Phosphate Council (850) 224-8238  
 Gray Gordon, Cargill (813) 671-6145  
 Diana Youmans, IMC (863) 428-2613

### DEP PARTNERS WITH CARGILL, IMC TO MAINTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY AT MULBERRY

*-- Over 350 million gallons of acidic process water to be transferred --*

**MULBERRY** -- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, in an effort to prevent potentially serious environmental problems at the Mulberry Corporation plant in Polk County, announced today that Cargill Fertilizer and IMC Phosphates have volunteered to receive and recycle over 350 million gallons of fertilizer process water currently retained in the Mulberry's phosphogypsum system. Cargill will take 82 percent of the water to its Bartow facility through a pipeline to be constructed, while the remainder of the water will be hauled by truck to IMC facilities.

"We are pleased to have reached this agreement with Cargill and IMC to devise a feasible solution to this problem," said Department of Environmental Protection Secretary David B. Struhs. "DEP believes in being proactive in situations like this, where so many Florida residents would potentially be affected, and we are grateful to Cargill and IMC for acting so responsibly from an industry standpoint."

Following Mulberry's January 31, 2001 bankruptcy notification to DEP, the Department made the decision to retain a contractor with significant expertise to assist in developing an action plan that would involve both the short-term and long-term management of the sites.

The DEP approached the Florida Phosphate Council to help minimize the risk of an overflow of acidic process water from the phosphogypsum system, which is no longer being maintained by the Mulberry Corporation. DEP officials have been concerned that future heavy rains would pose an environmental risk should the process water overflow from the full phosphogypsum system.

The agreement sets a new standard for competing companies within the same industry to work together for environmental

within the same industry to work together for environmental protection, as well as for the DEP, which initiated and negotiated the agreement.

"The Council member companies were at the table with DEP early in the process working to find a solution to this environmental challenge," said Mary Lou Rajchel, President of the Florida Phosphate Council. "The fact that Cargill and IMC have agreed to take this action is a strong example of this industry's commitment to the environmental integrity of the communities where we live and work."

In addition, through efforts by The Florida Phosphate Council, costs for this project will be paid by an industry mining severance tax trust fund at no expense to taxpayers.

Last updated:  
May 21, 2001

**AMUNDSEN, MOORE & TORPY**

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OF COUNSEL:  
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PLEASE REPLY TO:  
POST OFFICE DRAWER 1759  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302-1759

June 29, 2001

Hand Delivery on this Date

**RECEIVED**

JUN 29 2001

C.H. Fancy, P.E.  
Chief, Bureau of Air Regulation  
Division of Air Resources Management  
Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blairstone Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

**BUREAU OF AIR REGULATION**

Re: **PSD Permit No. PSD-FL-242**  
**Piney Point Phosphates, Inc.**  
**Request for Six Month Extension**

Dear Mr. Fancy:

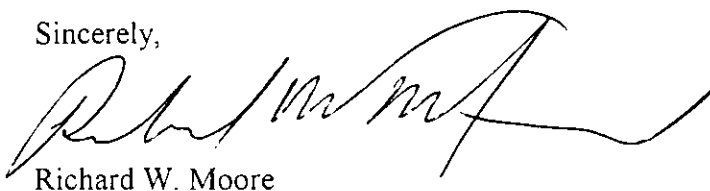
This firm represents Piney Point Phosphates, Inc. The purpose of this letter is to request the Department to extend the June 30, 2001, expiration date for the above referenced permit by six months. The new expiration date would be December 31, 2001.

Enclosed is a check for the permit extension fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

The reason for the requested extension is that Piney Point Phosphates is currently involved in a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy proceeding. In this proceeding Piney Point Phosphates is seeking to reorganize the company. A valid PSD permit will make the reorganization of the company more likely to succeed.

Please let me know if you require any additional information. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Moore

C.H. Fancy, P.E.  
June 29, 2001  
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Enclosure

cc: (Without Enclosure/U.S. Mail)  
DEP Southwest District Office  
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Tampa, FL 33619-8218

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Manatee County Environmental Management  
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Bradenton, FL 34206-1000