

From: Nathaniel Reed [<mailto:npreed33455@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:05 AM

To: Draper, Eric

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Cc: eric@evergladesfoundation.org

Subject:

To: Eric Draper
Manley Fuller
Ryan Smart
From: Nathaniel Reed

Your organizations have not been involved in the ongoing Lake Point legal dispute in Martin County.

However, the issues involved are of major importance to your organizations. The potential sale of public water is illegal and should not be permitted.

The terms of the settlement between the South Florida Water Management District and Lake Point are outrageous and could cost the taxpayers of the District millions of dollars.

Eric Eikenberg has decided that the issue, although very important, has declined involvement due to their involvement regarding the Negron Bill. I recognize that the District could sever the close relationship between the Foundation's experts and the team that the Corps and District has assembled to thoroughly review the size and scope of the proposed EAA reservoir and accompanying STA's by January first. It is the primary reason for the existence of the Everglades Foundation.

Without a reservoir of substantial size the amount of excess Lake Okeechobee water now draining highly polluted water into the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers will not be substantially reduced. The lake's excess water is desperately needed to refresh the Biscayne Aquifer and increase flows through the water conservations areas through the park into Florida Bay.

The team has the important task to determine whether the existing state-owned lands are of sufficient size to accomplish the objective outlined in the Negron Bill. If the land is not of sufficient size additional land can be acquired by purchase or by trading very valuable state-owned land within the EAA for land of a far lesser value adjacent to the state-owned land for a larger reservoir of meaningful value to the estuaries.

I urge you to consider requesting assistance from the Everglades Law Center and First Amendment Foundation to have them seek the through whatever legal action is necessary, the circumstances that led the Director of the South Florida Water Management District to propose a settlement to his board in a backroom session without public notice and without giving the audience of concerned citizens the opportunity to examine and comment on the terms of the settlement.

I really need your assistance, as I have been a watchful opponent of the Lake Point planned sale of water to Palm Beach County and have followed the machinations of Lake Point in its dealings with both the District and Martin County with acute interest for over three years.

Please consider this a request of great personal importance to me and to your members in both Martin County and within the South Florida Water Management taxing district.

Nathaniel

cc: Eric Eikenberg
Richard Grosso

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CBS Interview: <http://www.cbsnews.com/videos/inside-the-effort-to-protect-floridas-everglades/>

Order *Travels on the Green Highway: An Environmentalist's Journey* by Nathaniel Reed

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