



Je-b Bush  
Governor

# Department of Environmental Protection

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3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Colleen M. Castille  
Secretary

December 23, 2005

Carol Ann Wehle  
Executive Director  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun club Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-4680

Dear Carol *Carol*

Thank you for your November 22, 2005, notification of proposed revisions to the *Everglades Protection Area Tributary Basins Long-Term Plan for Achieving Water Quality Goals* (Long-Term Plan). The Department believes that these Long-Term Plan revisions are minor in nature, will not result in any negative environmental impacts, and will not adversely affect the intent and purpose of the Long-Term Plan. The Department also concurs with the opinions of District scientists expressed in your notification letter in support of the proposed revisions. However, the revisions required Governing Board approval, therefore the Department deems them to be major revisions.

We are aware that the proposed revisions were discussed at the November, 2005, Long-Term Plan Communications Meeting and we note that the required request for permit modification has also been submitted along with the proposed revision. We also believe the proposed revisions are consistent with the adaptive implementation process envisioned under the Everglades Forever Act (Section 373.4592, Florida Statutes). Therefore, the Department hereby approves the District's proposed revisions to the Long-Term Plan. Please note that a description of these revisions must be included in the 2007 South Florida Environmental Report in lieu of the Everglades Consolidated Report, as required by Section 1.10.4 of the Long-Term Plan.

We at the Department look forward to continuing to work with District staff in implementing the projects of the Long-Term Plan. If you or your staff has questions regarding this approval, please direct them to Frank Nearhoof at Suncom 205-8420.

Sincerely,

Colleen M. Castille  
Secretary

"More Protection, Less Process"

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