



April 10, 2019

Via Email ([DBartlett@sfwmd.gov](mailto:DBartlett@sfwmd.gov))

Mr. Drew Bartlett  
Executive Director  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

Congratulations on your appointment as executive director of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

As a landowner and stakeholder in South Florida, Florida Crystals shares the same goal as the State of Florida and your agency to preserve and protect Florida's waterways and environment.

Florida Crystals made a firm commitment 25 years ago to the public-private partnership that has resulted in remarkable success achieving one of the world's largest and most ambitious environmental restoration efforts, and we remain as resolute today to the success of Everglades restoration.

We have a documented track record as proponents of science-based restoration plans, including the Everglades Forever Act, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project and Everglades Restoration Strategies. We supported them and advocated for their passage.

We have also worked closely with the SFWMD to transition tracts of our privately owned farmland as well as leased land to the agency in a timely manner to construct restoration projects, including the A-1 FEB and the current STA-1W expansion.

It was in this same spirit and with the knowledge and expertise of how our public-private partnership has worked in the past that we negotiated a transitional lease for land in the EAA reservoir site. The terms of the lease executed in November 2018 show it was designed to accelerate the project by giving the SFWMD early access to 560 acres of land, allowing the agency to begin site work and transportation of aggregate at any time.

The lease was also written to ensure that land will be available as needed and without delay for the EAA reservoir's construction. Florida Crystals is fully committed to ensuring

---

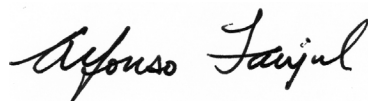
the same timely and cooperative transition of the 16,158 acres of leased land for the EAA reservoir as was achieved with the A-1 FEB and the STA-1W expansion. To this end, we have cooperated with every request by the SFWMD and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to access and use land we are currently farming to perform geological investigations as part of the EAA reservoir's design work, including allowing the excavation of multiple test pits within our active farming operations.

Furthermore, to be clear, as we have communicated to the current administration as well as to the prior administration, you have our commitment that, if construction of the reservoir is accelerated, we will transition land covered by this lease as needed by the SFWMD for construction of the EAA reservoir project.

As we approach the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Everglades Forever Act, we commend the professionals of the SFWMD for their accomplishments in making the bold vision set by the State of Florida for the Everglades a reality.

We look forward to working with you and your staff as you continue to implement Everglades restoration projects.

Sincerely,



Alfonso Fanjul  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Chairman of the Board



J. Pepe Fanjul  
President, Chief Operating Officer,  
Vice Chairman of the Board

cc: Governor Ron DeSantis, Governor of Florida  
([GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.gov](mailto:GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.gov))  
Secretary Noah Valenstein, Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
([noah.valenstein@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:noah.valenstein@dep.state.fl.us))  
Mr. Chauncey Goss, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([cgoss@sfwmd.gov](mailto:cgoss@sfwmd.gov))  
Mr. Scott Wagner, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([swagner@sfwmd.gov](mailto:swagner@sfwmd.gov))  
Mr. Charlie Martinez, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([cmartinez@sfwmd.gov](mailto:cmartinez@sfwmd.gov))  
Ms. Cheryl Meads, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([cmeads@sfwmd.gov](mailto:cmeads@sfwmd.gov))  
Ms. Charlette Roman, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([croman@sfwmd.gov](mailto:croman@sfwmd.gov))  
Mr. Jay Steinle, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([jsteinle@sfwmd.gov](mailto:jsteinle@sfwmd.gov))  
Ms. Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board  
([jthurlowlippisch@sfwmd.gov](mailto:jthurlowlippisch@sfwmd.gov))