



Editorials

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Editorial: Balancing ecology, economy

6:55 p.m., Thursday, July 31, 2008

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- Editorial: Making English fundamental
- Editorial: Give local firms a chance to step to the plate as well

Tell us about it



- What would you add to this story? Tell us what we missed.

We knew there would be a downside. We knew the largely positive initial reaction to the proposal for Florida to buy out a traditional source of Everglades pollution from Big Sugar would eventually be met with a competing interest.

And here it is: The loss of jobs and the impact to the economy of that area and the rest of Florida.

A new state report says Palm Beach, Hendry and

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Hot stories over the past 24 hours:

- Letters to the Editor: Dec. 21, 2008 **(80)**
- Two Immokalee residents hurt in shooting; two deputies responding injured in wreck **(36)**
- Letters to the editor: Dec. 22, 2008 **(29)**
- Illegal alien gets probation after admitting he faked his Naples work credentials **(61)**
- Whatever Happened to?: Linda Abbott **(47)**
- Booming panther population pushing boundaries, causing concerns **(20)**
- Presidential election a boon for gun shop owners **(16)**
- Lee deputies face lawsuit after man Tasered during arrest **(12)**

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Glades counties would be hardest hit because that's where most of U.S. Sugar's operations are based. Together, the three areas could lose 8,935 jobs and \$1.43 billion.

Not good.

Still, it will be important to take a harder look at those numbers. What kinds of jobs are involved, and what is the average annual wage? Are they the kinds of jobs that are better replaced in the

long run by a cleaner, more sustainable industry?

All areas, Southwest Florida included, reach a point where it makes sense to re-examine the status quo and all its impacts and ask if there is a better way to make a living.

There has to be a better way for the affected area than sticking with a dominate employer that does so much environmental damage.

That needs to be kept in mind as this major environmental/economic proposal moves forward.

- Naples robbery victim stared down gun barrel, says 'no reason why I should be alive' (35)
- Covering Florida, one uninsured person at a time (9)

Currently: 70 °

Intermittent Clouds

Hi: 69° | Low: 53° | Humidity: 43%

Wind: NE at 11 mph

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