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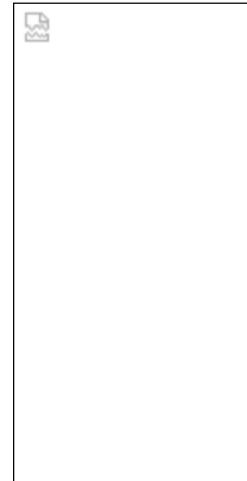
Editorial: Crist still disrespects Glades

Palm Beach Post Editorial

Thursday, April 09, 2009

Gov. Crist has gone from uncaring to arrogant when it comes to the residents of the Glades communities.

On Tuesday, the governor announced that he had reappointed a member of the Southwest Florida Water Management District governing board. The governor did not announce that he had filled a vacancy on the South Florida Water Management District governing board. He hasn't filled the vacancy on the nine-member board for nearly 10 months. It is the seat that represents the Lake Okeechobee towns whose residents worry most about the deal for the district to buy U.S. Sugar's land.



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The governor has had qualified applicants for the seat since September. Today, the governing board gets its first look at the deal's term sheet. In mid-May, the board is scheduled to vote on it. This is the third proposed deal with U.S. Sugar. For each of those deals, the area that will be most affected has had no representation.

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Since the first deal passed the board by just one vote, and one member has had to recuse himself, perhaps the governor is worried about how a Glades board member might vote. Whatever the reason, his delay amounts to calculated cruelty toward Floridians who see his environmental legacy as a threat to their future and their security.

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