



December 16, 2008

To the South Florida Management District Governing Board:

The Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance of Palm Beach County (LORE) is a body of local stakeholders who desire is to enhance and attract quality, sustainable economic development in the lake communities. Our board has reviewed and discussed the proposed contract for the acquisition of US Sugar property at length and agrees that restoring the natural hydrology of South Florida is needed but not under the condition this contract presents. The adverse impacts this contract will have on our communities by removing economic stability and sustainability only creates more problems for our area and works against LORE's mission of improving our area's economy. Therefore, LORE opposes this purchase contract and urges the District to renegotiate terms to be beneficial towards both the environment and communities of the region.

Respectfully yours,

Ashley T. Tripp

President

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