

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Water Quality Issues

i. Reports from City Council members

1. Correspondence of August 11, 2008 to Governor Crist regarding US Sugar land acquisition

August 11, 2008



## City of Sanibel

800 Dunlop Road  
Sanibel, Florida 33957-4096

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### AREA CODE - 239

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PARKS & RECREATION	472-9075
PLANNING	472-4136
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PUBLIC WORKS	472-6397

Dear Board Member, South Florida Water Management District:

The Sanibel City Council at their regular meeting of August 5, 2008 unanimously adopted a Resolution urging Governor Charlie Crist and the South Water Management District to acquire the United States Sugar Corporation lands south of Lake Okeechobee for the protection and restoration of America's Everglades and Florida's coastal estuaries.

The benefits of the land acquisition would include huge increases in the availability of water storage and significantly reduce the potential for harmful discharges from Lake Okeechobee, thereby, preventing thousands of tons of phosphorus from entering the Everglades every year and eliminate the need for "back pumping" water into Lake Okeechobee.

The acquisition of as much as 187,000 acres of land south of the lake would provide the "missing link" needed to protect the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers and estuaries, and revive, restore and preserve one of America's greatest treasures.

We applaud and enthusiastically support your landmark efforts to acquire significant lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area to restore and protect both the northern and southern Everglades and Florida's estuaries.

A copy of the City of Sanibel Resolution is enclosed.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Denham".

Mick Denham  
Mayor

Enclosure

CC: City Council  
Judith A. Zimomra, City Manager  
Kenneth B. Cuyler, City Attorney