

Gentlemen:

I have resided in Collier County since 1981. I remember when the buyout of the "South Blocks" of Golden Gate Estates (a.k.a. Picayune Strand) was touted as a "willing seller program" until Jesse Hardy resisted. I knew inspectors that visited the site during the filling of the canals and I was told that the fill was not clean fill... it would not have met county code standards because there was too much vegetation in it.

I find it ludicrous that we are "restoring" the "natural ecosystem" through the installation of massive diesel pumping facilities and berms. I find it even more disturbing that the upstream occupied dwellings are dependent on the continued operation of these pumps during the worst of storms and there was no redundancy designed into the system. Who do these people sue in the event of a pump failure? FEMA? How long does diesel fuel stay fresh if the pumps go unused for a couple of years? Even our simplest sewage pumping stations have redundancy.

I do not like the fact that the public has been excluded from this area. If anyone wants to talk to us about this matter, my friends and I (members of the Collier County Sportsmen's and Conservation Club) would love to have you come to town and meet with us and maybe drive through the area.

Thanks for listening

Stan Chrzanowski, P.E.