

JOHN J BURNS

May 3, 2004

Colonel Robert M. Carpenter
Commander and District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Jacksonville
P.O. Box 4970
701 San Marco Blvd.
Jacksonville, Florida. 32232-0019

Dear Colonel Carpenter:

Enclosed is the final report of the Indian River Lagoon – South Independent Scientific Review Panel. The Panel is delighted to have had the opportunity to review the Indian River Lagoon – South Project Implementation Report. We are hopeful that our expedited review of this important and complex project will be useful to you as you proceed with the project.

The Project Implementation Report stands as an impressive document that addresses a substantial number of issues with an obvious concern for achieving public goals and legislated directives. The team that created the Report, as well as those individuals responsible for integrating the pieces into a coherent whole should be highly commended for their efforts. It is the opinion of this review panel that the plans presented in the Report have a high likelihood of meeting the restoration objectives and that the supporting technical analyses are based upon sound science. There are considerable uncertainties inherent to a project of this complexity. Therefore, the panel has made recommendations for additional detailed analyses as this project is implemented. Again, we appreciate the opportunity to be part of this important undertaking and hope that our review will have added value to the process.

Please feel free to contact me or other members of the Panel if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



John J. Burns
Chairman
Indian River Lagoon – South
Independent Scientific Review Panel

Enclosure

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