



**Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program**  
1926 Victoria Avenue, Fort Myers FL 33901  
239/338-2556, Fax 239/338-2560, [www.chnep.org](http://www.chnep.org)

Via e-mail  
December 19, 2007

Orlando Rivera, Mandatory Phosphate Administrator  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mine Reclamation  
2051 East Dirac Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32310

Re: CF South Pasture Mine: CRP - WRP Modifications  
State DEP File # 151551-010 – **Extension of Public Comment Period**

Dear Mr. Rivera:

CHNEP is a partnership program, created by Section 320 of the Clean Water Act, to protect and preserve the greater Charlotte Harbor estuary, recognized as an estuary of national significance and one of the most productive estuaries in Florida. CHNEP developed and adopted a *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)* for the estuary and its watershed. This plan was developed by four committees of citizens, scientists, resource managers, industry representatives and policy makers. The CHNEP partnership includes, among others, Lee, Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, and Charlotte counties; several cities; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Southwest and Central Regional Planning Councils; and the South and the Southwest Florida Water Management Districts.

**We request a 90-day extension of the public comment period for the above referenced proposed modifications.** Our CCMP update includes a priority action to “identify the hydrologic and environmental impacts of surface water reservoirs on estuaries within the watershed.” The incorporation of reservoirs within the post-reclamation landscape is an important public policy issue that warrants an extended public comment period.

If we can be of assistance in furthering your efforts or if you have any questions, please contact me at the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program office at (239)338-2556 x 235 or by e-mail to [lbeever@swfrpc.org](mailto:lbeever@swfrpc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa B. Beever".

Lisa B. Beever, PhD, AICP  
Director  
Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program