



SAVE OUR BAYS, AIR AND CANALS
Dedicated to Protecting Our Environment
PO Box 3668 Apollo Beach, FL 33572

December 1, 2005

Re: SOBAC Desalination White Paper.

SOBAC, a local grass roots organization, has opposed desalination co-location on aging power plants and brine concentrate discharges on a number of grounds, including the following issues relevant to the Big Bend Power Plant/Tampa Bay Desalination Plant:

- Co-location with aging Coal-Fired Power Plant in order to use:
 - existing intakes, which do not meet current intake requirements,
 - a source of power extending the life of the oldest, dirtiest coal burning plants rather than new plants or plants that have converted natural gas
 - disposal of brine concentrate discharge into estuaries rather than examining preferred alternatives including:
 - use or development of newer desalination technologies that reduce or eliminate brine waste stream
 - industrial reuse of brine,
 - deep well injection, or
 - pipelines to open oceans as recommended by Cyprus scientists.
- Discharges into already stressed estuaries and rivers.
 - Increased Salinity will lower Dissolved Oxygen levels (these parameter share an inversely proportional chemical oceanography relationship)
- Dilution as a solution to pollution should be replaced with waste reduction and elimination through industrial reuse.
- Lack of financial and technical assurances to ensure the plant operates and disposes of waste stream as intended. Otherwise both taxpayers and rate payers are left to foot the bill.

If you would like more information on SOBAC's concerns with Desalinization please contact our attorney below.

[NOTE: As of 2005, the Tampa Bay / Big Bend Desalinization plant is still not open for business plagued by intake and water quality technology problems].

Sincerely,

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