

We didn't move to the country 31 years ago to be near a phosphate mine. To hear the sounds of a dragline the length of a football field. To smell and breathe the toxic chemicals that are being created or the radioactive radon dust that is brought to the surface to be caught up in our air we breathe. I can smell the orange plant that is 6 miles from me. These sludge ponds will be less than 2 miles from my house. The entire mine is 3-4 miles from Arcadia.

Mosaics idea of reclaimed land is not returning it to how it was in the beginning. The chain of life is destroyed. 3 legged frogs are found on reclaimed land.

Desoto Comp Plan 2007 Revised June 6<sup>th</sup> 2013 Conservation Element Objective 1.7 Policy 1.7.11

READS: "Wetlands, rivers, streams, floodplains, habitat of threatened or endangered species and species of special concern, prime agricultural lands, prime groundwater recharge areas, historically significant sites or other environmentally sensitive areas which cannot be restored shall be identified and protected by a prohibition on mining activities within those areas and the establishment of buffer zones around them. Restoration is defined as: "to put back the same thing that had previously existed, i.e., restore the type, nature and function of the ecosystem to the condition in existence prior to mining."

Scientists agree that water flow in the Peace River has dramatically decreased in the last 40 years. We cannot continue to let phosphate mining to continue to reduce the water flow. Charlotte harbor will be affected if the salinity changes beyond a certain range. The populations of Snook, Spotted sea trout Mullet and Redfish will be affected. These fish depend on a specific kind of ecosystem that also depends on freshwater inflow from the Peace river which regulates the salinity.

Mosaic is requesting 69 Million gallons of water a day. This will greatly affect the Floridian Aquifer.

Quote from Desoto Comp Plan Future Land Use Element 2007 Revised June 6, 2013

Drainage Element Page 10 " The headwaters of the Peace river act as an important recharge area for the Floridian Aquifer"

Desoto Comp Plan August 2007 Aquifer Protection Element Page 4: Reads

#### "4. Regulatory Framework

Regulations have been enacted to prevent negative impacts due to excessive water consumption. Extreme lowering of aquifer levels and surface water flows can adversely impact ecosystems by lowering lake levels, degrading wetlands and other natural systems and habitats.

Other related negative impacts can include increased sinkhole frequency and saltwater intrusion in coastal areas.

In other words when there reduced water flow there is less pressure on the salt water allowing it to come inland into our drinking water wells.

Because of Round up glyphosate our lifes have been forever ruined already. Mosaic sprays Round up (glyphosate) from the air to kill a certain kind of useless African grass that grows during mining. My husband developed cancer 3 summers ago. We attribute it to his working with round up (glyphosate) in the lawn business. He is a non smoker or tobacco chewer. They had to remove his entire tongue. According to our Moffitt Drs the tongue is a very spongy organ that holds on to chemicals and cause cancer. Since Alan can no longer speak clearly or ever eat solid foods again he wrote down a few words from him: Read "Over 30 yrs ago we bought our property on Environmental Rd and built a home and raised a family here. Our entire adult lives are invested in this property. We moved out here from Sarasota for the peace and quiet, clean air and fresh water. This one decision to let this project go forward could take all that away from us. And impact our property value negatively. Please do not let this project go forward. Sincerely Alan Stiner"

I believe Charlotte County will sue Desoto County for the eventual destruction of their fishing and tourism industry. Sarasota ~~count~~ also because they depend on millions of gallons of clean drinking water from the Peace River daily. The Peace River is the 8<sup>th</sup> most endangered river in all of America.

The Peace River basin brings in 6 Billion 338 million in sales including Tourism, Commercial fishing and Agriculture. By comparison phosphate mining contributes 530 Million. Mosaic puts most of that money back into their stockholders and themselves. Source Manasota 88 2008 article.

Please have mercy on our county and it's citizens and voters.

Sincerely

Vicki Stiner