



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

November 19, 2015

The Honorable Harold "Hal" Rogers  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey,

We are writing in support of the effort to deauthorize the Army Corps of Engineers' Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area Project, which is included in Section 105 of the Senate's Fiscal Year 2016 Energy & Water appropriations bill. Given the importance of deauthorizing this project as soon as possible, we ask that you support this effort as you work to conclude the appropriations process.

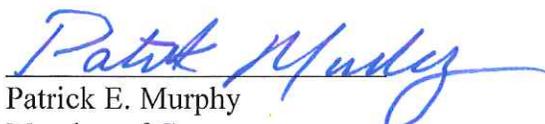
Ten Mile Creek, located in St. Lucie County, Florida, is a first-generation Everglades restoration project authorized by Congress that was designed to provide for the storage and cleaning of nitrogen- and phosphorous-laden storm water flows from the Ten Mile Creek basin before the water reaches the St. Lucie Estuary and the Indian River Lagoon. Unfortunately, while the project was completed in 2006, the reservoir was designed incorrectly by a private contractor and has never properly functioned. This has resulted in continued unresolved water quality issues within the waterways connected to Ten Mile Creek.

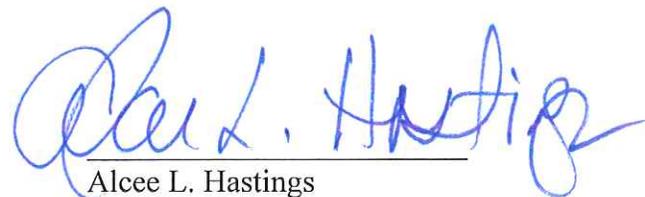
In April 2014, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) offered to assume responsibility for Ten Mile Creek, as they believe they are in the best position to gain functionality from the project. The State of Florida is supportive of the transfer of the project to SFWMD and has already budgeted to improve the project and restore its functionality.

This issue has been ongoing for many years, and as water quality continues to deteriorate, it causes additional harm to both the environment and the economy of the region. Inclusion of this language will allow Florida to rapidly address the severe water quality issues within the waterways connected to Ten Mile Creek and further Everglades restoration efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely

  
Patrick E. Murphy  
Member of Congress

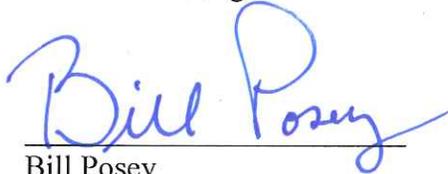
  
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



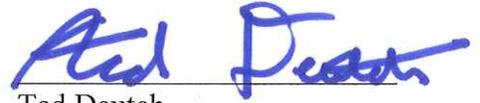
Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



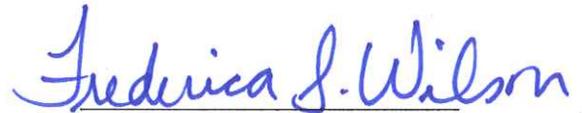
Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



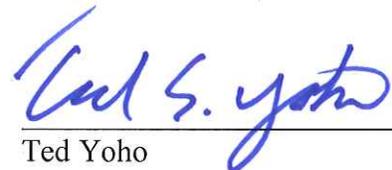
Dennis A. Ross  
Member of Congress



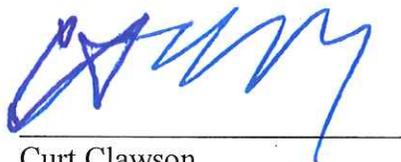
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



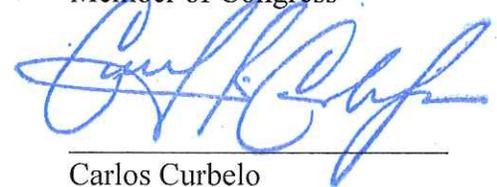
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



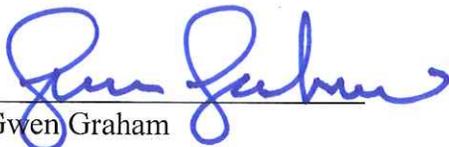
Ted Yoho  
Member of Congress



Curt Clawson  
Member of Congress



Carlos Curbelo  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress