

EPA Seeks Control of Property
by Fred Brummer
Apopka Chief March 5, 2010

Previously I wrote about special interest groups threatening the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a lawsuit if the EPA did not impose excessive regulations on state and local governments in Florida. Irrespective of the efforts of many groups protesting the settlement, a federal judge allowed the EPA to go forward with the rule making.

The EPA has published its proposed rule. To view the proposed rule, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the keyword or ID box enter: **EPA-HQ-OW-2009-0596-0179** and click **Search**. The first result will be **Water Quality Standards for the State of Florida's Lakes and Flowing Waters**.

The proposed rule is more than 50 pages. The rule is more severe than EPA's own scientists deem necessary. To say that the new rule will be costly would be a gross understatement.

I am not asking you to become an expert on water quality standards but I do ask that you read the summary of the rule.

I will ask that you provide a comment to the EPA regarding the proposed rule. You need to provide that comment by April 28th. The EPA is only required to consider information provided during the public comment period. State and local agencies are required to consider information submitted up to the proposed date of implementation of the new rule. Not so for EPA; they will be able to ignore any information regarding the rule submitted after April 28.

To submit: click **Submit A Comment** at the site where you entered the rule number at <http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#documentDetail?R=0900006480a83e17> and you will have the option to type your comments or upload a file.

The cost to taxpayers to implement the rule will be billions of dollars. Why would EPA impose a hugely expensive rule that will likely have a small return in increased water quality? Why would EPA impose this hugely expensive rule at a time when families are struggling to pay their mortgages, when people are out of work, when a job killing rule such as this would be completely devastating?

The issue is not about water quality; it is about control.

The EPA and its special interest group supporters will have greater control in the use of property and Florida's resources. EPA and its special interest sycophants will designate how state and local governments will spend your tax dollars.

The proposed rule will impact every homeowner and taxpayer. This matter is not about septic systems; it is about all property and all homes.

Should you wish help with preparation of a comment on the proposed rule, please call 407-836-7350 or email sarah.fowler@ocfl.net. Ms. Fowler is an Aide to District 2 for the Orange County Commission. She is working diligently on this matter. Should you wish to discuss the matter with me, the phone number is the same.