

Mari R. Hollingsworth letter to Florida Governor, January 2003

“Cows are left in a field while sewage sludge was being spread. The 30-day grazing restriction is not being enforced”

January 11, 2003

Governor John E. Bush
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Governor John E. Bush,

Hope your family is doing well.

These are my concerns and suggestions:

March 6, 2002, Rudy Isaac and David McColeman noted cattle grazing during the application of class-B sludge, this happened in Desoto County. Governor, the cows were not placed under quarantine. I am concerned contamination might have already occurred. The cattle rancher and land owner is Clyde Hollingsworth Jr.

I have contacted the National Cattlemen's Association, Kisseeme, Fl. and spoke to Jim Alderman, President. I requested certified veterinarians check Mr. Hollingsworth cattle, he replied by saying there are no current funds available. In my research I found that AZURIX, a Texas based sludge industry is one of the stake holders, one who contributes to the Cattlemen's Association, This company has recently changed names three times American Water Works, and currently American Water Service now based in New Jersey.

I spoke with Dr. Ashby Green with Department of Agriculture, Tallahassee. He explained to me, his department could not get involved because Mr. Hollingsworth had not reported any cattle being sick or dying. Todd Hand - Fl. D.E.P. Law Enforcement did an investigation and noted dead cows.

Dr. David L. Lewis of E.P.A. Athens, Ga. referred me to Martha Robert's - Deputy Secretary - Department of Agriculture Consumer Services, I contacted Debra Getzoff and left a message to invite Ms. Robert's to the Tampa Fl. D.E.P. work shop on sludge, January 15, 2003.

My distrust of State and Federal Agencies leads me to suggest these options and people to help solve the complicated sludge issues. Cattle should not be permitted to graze on sludge fields.

Sincerely Yours,

Mari R. Hollingsworth
PO Box 1336
La Belle, Fl. 33975

cc. Rudy Isaac
David McColeman
Clyde Hollingsworth Jr.
Jim Alderman
Dr. Ashby Green
Todd Hand
David Lewis
Martha Roberts
Debra Getzoff
Helene Shields

