



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary of Health

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November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Save Boca Raton Green Space  
5351 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Terrace  
Boca Raton, FL 33487

**Re: Ocean Breeze Development – Land Use Change  
Palm Beach County Health Department Recommendation - Environmental Phase II  
Audit Conducted Prior To Land Use Change Approval**

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Palm Beach County Health Department (PBCHD) acknowledges receipt of your email dated November 8th, 2007, (Copy attached). We welcome the opportunity to review public health concerns raised by citizens of this county.

Thanks for sharing the report from TLC Environmental Consultants and Engineering, Inc. dated October 22, 2007 with us. It is apparent from the report and the PBCHD agrees that there is potential for contamination based on the historical land use of the property and that an Environmental Phase II Audit should be performed at this site. This audit should be conducted by an independent professional geologist or professional engineer licensed in the state of Florida.

Unfortunately, there are no laws giving the PBCHD authority to require an environmental assessment. We do however; strongly recommend that an environmental phase II audit be conducted on this site for the protection of all concerned.

The PBCHD would be willing to review the final audit report and share this report with our partner the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Again, thank you for your concern for the health of the citizens and visitors to Palm Beach County.



Division of Environmental Health & Engineering  
Post Office Box 29 / 901 Evernia Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
Jean M. Malecki, MD, MPH, FACPM, Director  
[www.pbchd.com](http://www.pbchd.com)

**Save Boca Raton Green Space**

**November 19, 2007**

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If you have any questions please call me at 561-355-3070 ext. # 1152 or Mr. Selva Selvendran at 561-355-3136 ex. # 1171.

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O'Malley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John O'Malley, P.G., R.S.

Director,

Division of Environmental Health and Engineering

Palm Beach County Health Department

cc: Carmen Annunziato, Planning and Zoning Director, City of Boca Raton, 201, W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432

Bob Dennis, Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Planning, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Paul Wierzbicki, Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District Office, Suite 200, 400 N. Congress Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Attachment.

*Save Boca Raton Green Space  
5351 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Terrace  
Boca Raton, FL 33487*

November 8, 2007

Dear Dr. Malecki:

The mission statement of the Palm Beach County Health Department states:

To promote and protect a healthy community and environment by assuring essential public health services with a focus on prevention.

With this mission statement of your agency we would like to request your assistance with a potential hazardous health impact to our community as a result of a development in Boca Raton that is a partial golf course conversion. The health risk arises as a result of the proposed land use change that is now before the Florida Dept. of Community Affairs that would change this land use from recreational to residential.

The city of Boca Raton has recommended this land use change without the prior requirement of soil & groundwater analysis on property that has historically been a heavy user of herbicides and pesticides for over the past 33+ years. There are many studies that have been conducted that demonstrate the known risks on golf courses in South Florida due to contamination of the property as a result of the use of these chemicals in the normal operation of the golf course business.

Accordingly, we have attached our environmental consultant study which provides many references to these hazards. With your mission to protect the health and environment with a focus on prevention, we respectfully request that your agency review the potential public health hazard and the recommended due diligence necessary to protect the public health as it relates to this development proposal. We respectfully request that in order to meet your mission statement that your department submit notice to the Florida Dept. of Community Affairs that a change of land use is not consistent with the protection of public health with the PRIOR environmental analysis on the land being requested to be changed to residential land use in the Ocean Breeze development proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,  
Save Boca Raton Green Space

Encl. – Environmental Study of the Ocean Breeze development proposal in Boca Raton