



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Suwannee-St Johns Group

February 15, 2010

Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4 Office
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am pleased to write in support of the organization, Protect Gainesville's Citizens, Inc., in their application for the TAG grant (EPA Technical Assistance Grant). I urge you to grant this application at your earliest convenience.

Now that production of treated utility poles at the Cabot-Koppers Superfund Site (number 37) has ceased, a remediation plan is in development. Citizen input is crucial to a successful resolution of this long-standing issue. This industrial site located adjacent to a residential neighborhood in Gainesville has generated air, water, and soil pollution for nearly 100 years. Citizens are concerned for their health and that of the Floridan Aquifer itself. Their input has been limited in official decision-making, even though many citizen groups have worked to close the site and clean up the pollution for decades.

The Gainesville community as a whole will benefit from access to a TAG grant. There are numerous technical papers concerning the Cabot/Koppers superfund site. The public struggles to comprehend the problem, the proposed solutions, and their rights as neighbors. The TAG grant would afford citizens access to the input they have so far been denied.

I am a resident of Gainesville and serve as Chair of the Suwannee - St. Johns Group of the Sierra Club Florida. The Sierra Club support citizens' efforts to participate in public policy decisions. Our health, our water supply, and our property values depend on how this Superfund site is remediated.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Rob Brinkman, Chair
Suwannee-St. Johns Group of the Sierra Club Florida