
Taking issue with rule **OK; insulting DEP isn't**

A group of Florida residents known as "The Clean Water Network" challenged the state's proposed methods for prioritizing its work in cleaning up polluted lakes and streams.

The Palm Beach Post chose to support the group's challenge in Monday's editorial "Toxic rule-changing."

With final arguments made, the judge now will have the final word in this legal dispute. These are issues of law, and this is how the process is supposed to work

It is disappointing that **The Post** chooses to disparage and question the motives of those professionals who have worked so hard for the betterment of the environment. Nonpolitical, sciencebased professionals crafted this rule, working with the Environmental Protection Agency and interested parties to come up with a better way of addressing impaired waters.

Many of these workers have devoted their lives to environmental protection. To say that their work is for the benefit of polluters at the expense of the environment is an insult to a group of dedicated state employees.

DAVID B. STRUHS, secretary
Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
Tallahassee