



For Immediate Release March 26, 2015

Contact Information: Mark Songer, President 305-394-3807  
[marksonger72@gmail.com](mailto:marksonger72@gmail.com)

### **LAST STAND URGES BOCC TO GRANT FCAA REQUEST FOR CUDJOE DEEP WELL FUNDING**

Last Stand is urging Monroe County Board of County Commissioners to approve funding for a deep well to dispose of treated effluent at the Cudjoe Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant when it meets April 15, 2015.

“We are very pleased that the FCAA Board of Directors has evaluated the scientific research study by Dr. Henry Briceno of Florida International University and concluded that protecting near shore waters and environment of the Florida Keys requires a deep well for the Cudjoe facility” said Last Stand President Mark Songer.

Last Stand has been working to support funding since June 2014 when it adopted a position favoring deep injection wells for Florida Keys wastewater treatment facilities.

Because of the rapid rise of fresh water from a shallow well to mix with Keys waters, we believe disposal of the effluent into a shallow well to be equivalent to discharge into Florida Outstanding Waters. Florida Administrative Code sets especially low limits for nitrogen and phosphorous that can be discharged into Keys waters, and we know the effluent from the Cudjoe Regional plant will not meet those strict standards. A deep injection well will provide more effective disposal of the plant’s treated waste water by increasing the time and distance before the effluent mixes with Keys waters.

In our June 30, 2014 letter to BOCC, Last Stand stated its belief that proceeds of the Infrastructure Sales Tax should be reallocated to be used for a deep injection well at Cudjoe Regional. Other sources of funding such as RESTORE should also be considered. Our organization is committed to helping the County in every way we can to find the money to build the Cudjoe deep well.