



**SENATOR DAVE ARONBERG**  
27th District

## THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100



**REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH ABRUZZO**  
85th District

August 3, 2009

Dr. Ana Viamonte  
Surgeon General  
Florida Department of Health  
2585 Merchants Row Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Surgeon General Viamonte:

Last week, during a briefing on the responses by the state and Palm Beach County to the concerns of the families in the Acreage's "cancer cluster," we learned of the proactive position the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has taken. We respectfully request that as the lead state agency responsible for protecting the health of Floridians, your organization do the same.

We understand the need to have the investigation driven by empirical analysis, but hope that we can begin the environmental assessment of the land and water in the heart of this area immediately.

The families living in the Acreage who may be risking unnecessary contamination should not have to wait months to begin basic environmental testing. There are potentially aggravating environmental factors in the area that need to be probed as soon as possible.

Additionally, we ask that your agency immediately form the task force normally convened during Levels II and III of your internal protocol. The task force should hold a regularly scheduled weekly conference call where members will discuss the current progress, obstacles and expectations of the ongoing investigation and analysis.

REPLY TO:

- 6415 Lake Worth Road, Suite 210, Greenacres, Florida 33463 (561) 433-2627
- 2120 Main Street, Suite 206, Fort Myers, Florida 33901 (239) 338-2646
- 405 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5356

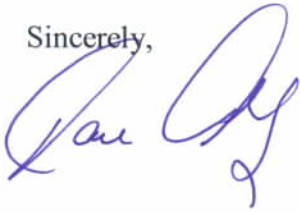
Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**JEFF ATWATER**  
President of the Senate

**MIKE FASANO**  
President Pro Tempore

On behalf of the residents in the Acreage and the surrounding communities, we urge you to follow DEP Secretary Sole's lead and begin basic testing into potential factors that may be contributing or exacerbating the cancer incidences in the Acreage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Aronberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dave" being more prominent.

Dave Aronberg  
State Senator, District 27

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Abruzzo". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joseph Abruzzo  
State Representative, District 85