



SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL

Jonathan P. Steverson  
Secretary  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 49  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

July 25, 2016

Dear Secretary Steverson,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and our thousands of members across the state of Florida, we would like to express our deep concern about the rule change proposed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) that would increase the allowable limits of toxic chemicals in our waterways. On July 26, the Environmental Regulation Commission (ERC) will vote on a rule that could increase legal concentrations of more than half of the 43 toxic substances regulated by FDEP. While we are pleased that additional chemicals will be regulated, the proposed rule change would also increase the allowable limits of numerous toxic compounds that are discharged into the state's rivers, lakes, streams and coastal waters. Such a rule change would come at the expense of Florida's public health, economy, and environment and put all Floridians at risk.

**FDEP proposed standards do not adequately protect all Floridians.**