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A Quick Update on the Slater Pump Station

1. For well over 2 months; the Department of Public Works, through it's "Point Man", Mr. Robert Righetti has insisted that additions / changes to the Slater Pump Station will not require permits .
2. Further, the DPW has insisted that pumps # 4 & #5 at the Slater facility were installed without permits from the County.
3. Over a month ago, Commissioner Kerins and the Planning Commission asked the staff to contact the County and get something in writing that would clarify the question. Two weeks ago at a Study Session, Commissioner Kerins inquired about the matter and was told by Mr. Righetti "You don't need anything in writing from the County, I can tell you all that you need to know about the Slater Pump Station". Commissioner Kerins stated that there seemed to be a difference of opinion and that clarification from the County was needed. Mr. Righetti then stated "We disagree with you".
4. While all this was going on, I was working with the good folks at the County Flood Control Dept., trying to find the truth about the Slater Pump Station. At the same time, I made repeated requests to the City DPW to see "The Full Package" on the Slater Pump Station. All that I was ever allowed to see was the 1964 & 1967 Permits & Plans.
5. I discovered two letters from the County Flood Control Dept. in the Parkside EIR that stated Permits for the Slater Pump Station would be required, one dated 5/27/98 and one dated 8/10/01, yet the "Staff" did not tell the Planning Commission about them.
6. On Tuesday, 9/3/02; the County folks found a 1975 permit for the Slater Pump Station that allowed the building of the 8 outlets into the CO-5 Channel, other improvements and the addition of pump #4 (see item 2 above).

7. The City DPW was notified of the above (item #6) and wonder of wonders, the DPW found their set of the same plans. (ancient oriental proverb: to cause improvement in ones performance, you simple arrange for them to feel what they perceive as their back against the wall).
8. Now that all the “Facts are on the table”, the County has responded, in writing, to the City about the Slater Pump Station.
9. The bottom line is **PERMITS WILL BE REQUIRED.**
10. The County has also responded to a FEMA request for all the information about the Slater Pump Station.

I have attached to this e-mail a copy of the County letter in Acrobat PDF format, I hope to get a copy of the letter to FEMA very shortly. I will e-mail it to you ASAP

Sincerely,

Robert E. (Bob) Dingwall

Spokesperson

West Orange County Taxpayers Association