CS/CS/CS/HB 991 Environmental Permitting – Detailed Items

Section 1, Pages 8-9, Lines 216-241 – Third Party Challengers

Shifts the burden of proof to the third party challenging a permit. This reduces citizen action and access to justice.

Section 3, Pages 10-11, Lines 268-307 – Requests for Additional Information (RAI's)

Reduces the time that DEP has to request and review additional information associated with the permit process and allows petitioners to request a hearing if they disagree. Also includes language allowing permits to be issued in advance of any incidental take authorizations provided for in the Endangered Species Act.

Section 4, Page 12, Lines 320-327 - Permits

Directs DEP to streamline and simplify the permitting process for the maintenance of beach renourishment projects.

<u>Section 8, Pages 17-18, Lines 455-500 – Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve</u>

Exempts municipal applicants that propose a project in this protected area from showing extreme hardship. Allows dredging and filling for the creation of a public waterfront promenade.

Section 14, Pages 32-34, Lines 869-944 – Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM)

Takes a very complicated and complex rule for evaluating and assessing wetlands and drops it into the statute. Includes language allowing mitigation banks to not conform to certain UMAM provisions.

Section 17, Pages 39-43, Lines 1074-1199 – Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Mitigation

Allows fees to be shifted to a seepage mitigation project. Controversial to some who worry about work stopping on Miami-Dade well field work.

Section 18, Pages 44-45, Lines 1206-1244 - Delegation of ERP Permitting

Requires counties and municipalities of a certain size to apply for delegation of ERP permitting before June 1, 2012. Includes language exempting permits associated with solid mineral mining from this requirement.

Section 21, Pages 48-49, Lines 1326-1345 - Aggregate Mining Preemption

Preempts local governments from regulating aggregate mining operations. Exempts Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Area.

Section 22, Page 49, Lines 1350-1372 – Mining Exemptions

Exempts mining operations (such as phosphate) from the DRI process.

Section 26, Pages 53-57, Lines 1482-1583 - Incentive-Based Permitting

Rewards those who have a good compliance record with expedited reviews and processing.

Section 29, Page 61, Lines 1682-1691 – Solid Waste

Includes an extension of solid waste permits (meaning landfills) to 20 year permits which means fewer opportunities for citizen involvement in the permitting process.