From:	Isabella Jaramillo
To:	Wood-McGrath, Avril
Cc:	Laura Reynolds; Bruce Matheson; Paul J. Schwiep; Joyner, Daryll; Sutton, Kaitlyn; Snyder.Katherine@epa.gov; harper.cecelia@epa.gov
Subject:	FOBB Comments- Triennial Review
Date:	Wednesday, May 19, 2021 10:03:25 PM
Attachments:	Friends of Biscayne Bay Triennieal Review Letter 2021.pdf

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Dear Avril Wood-McGrath,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Friends of Biscayne Bay, a non-profit citizen support organization that focuses on supporting the health and prosperity of the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves, to formally submit our comments regarding the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) proposed changes under the Triennial Review of Florida's Water Quality Standards. All surface water quality standards in Chapter 62-302, Chapter 62-303, Chapter 62-304, and Chapter 62-4, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), are open under the current review and may be revised as part of the Triennial Review.

The Friends of Biscayne Bay strongly opposes the reduction of any water quality protections in Biscayne Bay currently afforded under the state assumption of the Clean Water Act Program. At this time the area is the subject of a restoration plan that has just kicked off in 2020 through the Biscayne Bay Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem ("BBSEER"). Further discussions with the Department would be beneficial as we do not see how these changes will improve aquatic preserves like Biscayne Bay across the state but instead will help polluters mask more of their pollution load, while we are left with a greater burden as a state to get to any kind of enforcement that will ultimately clean up protect the resource.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Isabella Jaramillo
Environmental Associate
c: (786) 797-0821
ijaramillo@conservationconceptsllc.org