

Dear ...member and supporter:

Over the years the residents of east Corkscrew Road have successfully defeated approval of new mines along Corkscrew Road. In the process they have raised and spent about \$200,000 to preserve their quality of life. As a result of their efforts those of us who live further west have been spared several thousand trucks per day traveling west on Corkscrew Road and north or south on I-75. This threat may not look like much today but don't underestimate its impact a couple of years from now when the economy is back to normal.

Unfortunately we are now threatened by another Corkscrew Mine application, the RCH Mine.

The RCH Mine request is to rezone 1,365 acres on Corkscrew Road to mine limestone to a depth of 110 feet with blasting for decades to come. In addition the applicants are seeking a General Mining Permit that will allow it to operate a concrete batch plant and an asphalt batch plant on the site with their associated trucks as well

If this latest attempt to industrialize Corkscrew Road is approved, the decision would:

- establish a new development pattern and set a precedent for the seven other rock mine applications pending on Corkscrew Road
- according to the staff report the mine will increase the number of dump trucks heading west each day on Corkscrew Road from 500 to 1,500 (2007 data). These are all round trips so 1,500 per day will return by the same route.
- result in permanent adverse impacts to hydrology, surface water flow, and natural systems function of wetland and aquatic resources of regional importance
- adversely impact endangered and threatened species including the Florida Panther and Woodstork

The impact of new Corkscrew Road mines on the quality of life in Estero will be enormous. It will increase traffic, dust and noise plus adversely impact our water supply, flooding, wildlife and bird habitat, and Estero Bay water quality.

If you are not yet convinced look at the map at <http://www.corkscrewroad.org/images/mine-apps-map108.jpg> showing the seven pending Corkscrew Road mine applications.

The Hearing on this application has already run for five days, and another 6 days are scheduled. Our attorney on this case estimates that the total cost for the case will be about \$36,000. If everyone affected by this mine and its trucks makes a small contribution this is very affordable.

Please support your community and protect the value of your home by making a contribution to this effort. Make out your check to:

Thomas B. Hart Trust Account...RCH Mine

And mail it to:

1625 Hendry Street, Suite 301
Ft. Myers, Florida 33901

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,
Don Eslick, President ECCL