Mr. Richard A. Wilford
Director
Manatee County Public
Works Department
Post Office Box 25010
Bradenton, Florida 34206

Dear Richard:

Thank you for your December 30 letter about Manatee County's request for a variance from the current statutory requirement (s. 403.708(15)(c), F.S.) that bans the disposal of yard trash in lined landfills after January 1, 1992. We are now in the process of reviewing this information and hope to resolve this decision soon.

I must take issue however, with your statement that until a decision has been rendered by the Department, Manatee County will be considered in compliance with the Department's solid waste rule and exempt from the statutory mandate. Rather, it is the Department's position that Manatee County is not in compliance with the yard trash ban; however we will withhold any formal enforcement action while the variance decision is still pending.

We will expedite our review of your variance request. We understand your need to have this issue resolved so that Manatee County can properly manage their yard trash. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to call me at (904) 488-0300 or Mary Jean Yon, Administrator of the Solid Waste Section at (904) 922-6104.

Sincerely,

William W. Hinkley, Chief Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste

WWH/mym

cc: Mary Jean Yon Chris McGuire Bill Kutash