

**Charlie Crist**  
*Governor*  
**Monesia T. Brown**  
*Director*

March 18, 2008

Mr. J. Bradley Williams  
Mr. David Sharp  
Floridian Natural Gas Storage Company  
1000 Louisiana Street  
Suite 4361  
Houston, Texas 77002


Dear Sirs:

I am excited to hear about the progress that Floridian Natural Gas Storage Company is making in Martin County to bring the first natural gas storage facility to the State of Florida. From our perspective at the Agency for Workforce Innovation, this is a great example of how private dollars can be used to create short- and long-term jobs for Florida's residents. This type of private investment and job creation is particularly important in an area like Indiantown where the project's economic study (developed by Florida Atlantic University) found per capita income to be approximately half that of Martin County and three-fourths that of Florida. The financial benefits to Indiantown and Martin County will be a long-term significant addition to the economy.

We understand that your project will also need a skilled workforce of approximately 350 workers, including approximately 150 certified welders during the three-year construction phase. In that regard, I commend you again for the commitment to work with Indian River College to forge a private-public partnership to create a welding training initiative. I also encourage you to coordinate with the Treasure Coast Regional Workforce Board that serves Martin County. The Regional Workforce Board can assist you in the recruitment of applicants for training slots and for the jobs created by this project. Private investment like the Floridian project that creates jobs and adds over \$2.5 million per year in taxes is the type of growth we are promising.

We support and applaud your efforts. Please let us know how we can assist in ensuring the completion of the project on behalf of the people of the State of Florida

Sincerely,



Monesia T. Brown  
Director

MTB/kww

**Agency for Workforce Innovation**

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