



State & Local Working Group Teleconference Summary of January 21, 2004

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Ozzie Morris, Cargill Crop Nutrition
Brian Neff, South Florida Manufacturers Association
Richard Peck, QTM
Eddie Pollock, CSX Transportation
John Ray, Enterprise Florida
Barret Rea, Waste Away Systems
Dave Williams, Exceletech

Issue:

Currently it is difficult to do business in Florida. For example, manufacturers cannot get permits easily, opportunities for tax breaks require inordinate amounts of paperwork, and most importantly, they have no one to talk to about their difficulties, or to champion their needs. The goal is to make it easy to do business in Florida - for the **existing** manufacturers as well as those being recruited. Make Florida a manufacturing state - easy to do business and encourage growth.

Recommendation:

Recognize the importance of manufacturing in the State of Florida by **funding** and creating a position to support manufacturers.

Solution:

Establish a State-funded, high-level manufacturing position, reporting directly to D. Kelley in Enterprise Florida. This person should have manufacturing and government experience. He/She would establish strong relations with manufacturing associations, the Florida MEP, local EDCs, and with regulatory and permitting offices. This person would be a go-to for manufacturers (through their local associations/agencies at first if possible) for one-stop shopping for all issues - taxes, permitting, etc.