

# Fiber Optic Industry Presentation to the Florida Cabinet on DEP Proposal

March 13, 2001

# North American Submarine Cable Association (NASCA) Member Companies

- 360 Networks
- Alcatel
- At&T/Concert
- Flag Telecom
- Gemini
- Global Crossing
- Global Photon
- Global Marine Systems
- Level 3 Communications
- MCI Worldcom
- New World Networks
- Southern Cross
- Sprint
- Teleglobe2
- TyCom
- WCI Cable
- Williams  
Communications

# Minimal Environmental Impact

- Only 8 New Cables Expected thru 2009
- Current Regulatory Framework Protects the Environment
  - Best Management Practices
  - Minimization & Mitigation of Impacts
  - Coral Impacts Measured
- No Environmental Justification for Mandatory Corridors or Keeping Cables Out of SE Florida

# IT Florida's Reports to the Legislature

- “Governments should not intrude into the operations of the competitive broadband and information services industries.”
- “Florida should take the lead among states in working with e-business companies”
- Fiscal policies should encourage, not burden e-business
- Competitive marketplace should drive infrastructure development
- Regulation by “least intrusive means”

# How DEP Proposal Conflicts With Florida's IT Policy

- Undercuts promotion of FL as IT-friendly, “High-Tech Corridor”, “Internet Coast”
- Undermines SE Florida's position as the natural gateway to the south for cables carrying data, Internet & voice traffic

# Cabinet Should Give DEP Environmental Policy Direction

- No government-mandated corridors
- Allow landing on SE coast where applicant
  - Complies with BMPs; and
  - Minimizes and mitigates environmental impacts

# What is Reasonable Easement Fee?

- 4 States Charge Annual Fees
- 7 States Charge One-Time Fee
- 4 States Charge No Fee

» Source: DMG - Maximus Report Data

# Coastal State Comparisons High-Low Annual Fees

- Maryland      45 Cents/LF
- California      Average \$3 to \$5/LF  
Based on FMV





# Cabinet Action Requested

- One-Time \$5/LF Private Easement Fee
- No Government-Mandated Corridors
- Continue to Rely on DEP's Proven Ability to Effectively Regulate Cable Landings