

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Meyers", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

ROBERT MEYERS  
Executive Director

authority is charged with the responsibility of planning, administering and managing the preliminary engineering and preliminary environmental assessment of the high-speed rail system.

The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance permits you to serve on both the Environmental Quality Control Board and the High Speed Rail Authority. However, your service on both boards raises potential conflicts. The High Speed Rail Authority is required to conduct an environmental assessment and discuss changes in state statutes or local ordinances that are necessary for implementation of the authority's plans. The EQCB would have to approve any plans by the authority that requires a variance of local environmental law. Therefore, you may have a conflict regarding any matters that come before the EQCB which arise from authority

recommendations. Further, Section 2-11.1 (h) prohibits you from disclosing confidential information acquired by reason of his official position. Therefore, you should not vote on matters that come before the EQCB arising from the Authority's recommendations and may not disclose any confidential information.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Please contact the State of Florida Commission on Ethics if you have any questions regarding possible conflicts under state law.

If you have any questions regarding this opinion, please call Ardyth Walker, Staff General Counsel at (305) 350-0616 or the undersigned at (305) 579-2594.



December 12, 2001

**ETHICS COMMISSIONERS**

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chairperson  
Charles A. Hall, Vice Chairperson  
Elizabeth M. Iglesias  
Knovack G. Jones  
Robert H. Newman

William C. Dunn  
SunCam, Inc.  
7296 S.W. 146 Street Circle  
Miami, FL 33158

**ROBERT A. MEYERS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 01-80**

**MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI**  
ADVOCATE

Dear Mr. Dunn:

**ARDYTH WALKER**  
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for opinion at their meeting on December 11, 2001 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding any conflict between your service as a member of the Environmental Quality Control Board and service as a member of the Florida High Speed Authority.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you currently serve as a member of the Environmental Quality Control Board (EQCB). The EQCB is charged with the responsibility of hearing and making judgments regarding requests for variances and extensions of time of the county environmental requirements, approval of interim water treatment plants, appeals of persons or businesses aggrieved by actions or decisions of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

The President of the Florida Senate recently appointed you to the Florida High Speed Rail Authority. The High Speed Rail Authority was created by the 2001 legislature to manage preliminary planning and design for the high-speed rail program. The high-speed rail