

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

INQ 06-174

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2006 4:37 PM  
**To:** Dwyer, Cindy (DP&Z)  
**Subject:** RE: South Dade Watershed Plan Advisory Committee

Hi Cindy,

A member of an advisory committee can abstain only in cases where the member receives a legal opinion stating the member has a conflict of interest, or if the committee member believes in good faith that he/she has a conflict of interest. If no real or perceived conflict of interest exists, then the committee member must vote. A board member who has a conflict can actually stay in the room and participate in the discussion as long as he/she doesn't vote. Our office doesn't particularly like the idea that a person can participate and try to influence others and then abstain. We would prefer that a person with a conflict stays out of the discussion.

If you have any further questions, please feel to contact me.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
(305) 350-0613

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**From:** Dwyer, Cindy (DP&Z)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2006 11:49 AM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** South Dade Watershed Plan Advisory Committee

Hello Robert:

Craig Collier suggested that I ask you the following questions regarding the South Dade Watershed Plan Advisory Committee.

On December 21, the Committee will be voting on the attached document. Here are the questions:

- Under what circumstances, if any, must a member abstain from voting on this document due to a conflict of interest?
- Does a member have the right to abstain from voting on this document if there is no conflict of interest?

Thanks very much for your help.

Cindy Dwyer, Principal Planner  
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