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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ST. LUCIE COUNTY SEEKS INPUT APRIL 29 FOR FUTURE BEACH PROJECT**

FORT PIERCE – St. Lucie County will hold an open public workshop on Wednesday, April 29 to provide information and gather community input on the proposed South County Beach Project developed by the county's Erosion Control District to address erosion along southern county beaches.

The county has evaluated a study area, which extends from just north of the FP&L Nuclear Power Plant south to the Martin County line. The charette will be held on Wednesday,, April 29 from 6-8 p.m. in the St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, Roger Poitras Administration Annex, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce.

Beaches and dunes in southern St. Lucie County sustained significant damage during Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in the summer of 2004. Upland property, structures, and infrastructure remain vulnerable to damage during future storm events. This charette is an opportunity for the community to contribute to the formulation of a future project to restore the beach and dune system damaged by the hurricanes and prior storms.

At the meeting, there will be a brief presentation of the proposed plan to be followed by an open public forum. A description of the project purpose, the expected schedule, an updated summary of the existing physical and environmental conditions defining and surrounding the beach erosion problem, alternative strategies, design considerations and the proposed plan.

The public is invited attend and is encouraged to participate in this informative charette. For more information, please contact Richard Bouchard of St. Lucie County at (772) 462-1710 or Julia Thompson of Coastal Tech at (888) 562-8580.