History of Miccosukee Tribes Southern Golden Gate Estates (IMC) Property aka “Picayune Strand Restoration Project”

September 26, 1997  Miccosukee Tribe buys 805 acres of IMC property
October 7, 1997  Property Survey completed by Brett Bishop, Land Surveyors
November 25, 1997  Special Warranty Deed between IMC agribusiness, Inc. and Miccosukee Tribe.
January 27, 1998  Tribe requests Florida Division of Historical Resources if there are any archaeological resources on IMC property.
February 2, 1998  State replies that there are no archaeological resources on IMC property
October 23, 2002  DEP proposed to buy IMC property from Tribe
December 3, 2002  DEP increased their offer and threatens to seek Eminent Domain by January 28, 2003 if Tribe refuses to sell
December 27, 2002  Tribe asked BIA to assist
February 6, 2003  Tribe asks Fish and Wildlife Service to comment on Threatened and/or endangered species.
March 6, 2003  Miccosukee Business Council Resolution MBC-15-03 was passed, asking BIA to accept property into Trust Status
April 28, 2003  Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment was presented to the Tribe. One site was found as being potentially eligible for NRHP.
May 22, 2003  Fish and Wildlife Service responds that there are Florida Panthers on the property
June 11, 2003  Tribe files an application with BIA to place property in Trust.
July 7, 2003  State Division of Historical Resources denied Tribes request to include the site in National Registry of Historic Places. Suggested Phase 2 Survey be conducted.
August 14, 2003  DEP passes Resolution to use Eminent Domain to acquire land.
August 26, 2003  Petition to seek Eminent Domain was filed in Collier County
August 17, 2004  Tribe offers to negotiate with COE an agreement to accomplish Everglades Restoration on these lands. Lands are to be restored to their natural state.

August 23, 2004  The COE writes to BIA. COE supports Tribes Trust application because the Tribe has agreed to restore lands back to their natural state.

August 27, 2004  BIA letter to Tribe. BIA advises that Trust Application will be suspended until resolution of State of Florida’s condemnation action.

May 17, 2005  Collier County Court granted the Petition for Eminent Domain. Ordered payment be deposited IN TRUST with the United States of America for the Miccosukee Tribe.

May 12, 2006  BIA letter to Tribe

June 8, 2006  Tribe letter to BIA

August 15, 2006  BIA letter to Tribe. BIA closes Tribes application for Trust.

NOTE: The Miccosukee Constitution and Bylaws, Article V, Section 6 states:

“As authorized by law, to manage, lease, permit, or otherwise deal with tribal lands, interest in lands or other tribal assets; and to purchase or otherwise acquire lands or interest in lands within or without the reservation, provided tribal lands shall not be sold.”

The money sits in a “Trust Account” and cannot be accepted by the Miccosukee Tribe without violating their Tribal Constitution.