

Jacob Veaughn

From: Jacob Veaughn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:35 AM
To: 'sln5685@comcast.net'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Good Morning, Susan Noto

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket 20200226, and the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach will be notified.

Jacob Veaughn

Commission Deputy Clerk I
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From: sln5685@comcast.net <sln5685@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Commissioner.LaRossa@psc.state.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

I currently own, along with my husband Joe, a home at 181 North Gulf Blvd. in case you are unsure where this property is, it is on Palm Island/Knight Island.

We are being handed a no win situation for homeowners. We are being told that there needs to be a sewer system on this island and it needs to be done immediately. However, there has been absolutely no evidence, information, documentation or any such hard reason for this "necessary" immediate sewer system. We as home owners have never been given documented evidence that this immediate sewer proposal has any viability. There has only been a few SUGGESTIONS of costs that have ranged from \$13,000 per household to somewhere as high as \$24,000 per household but we have basically been told , "who knows" and are now supposed to agree to this that quasi proposal. To the best of my knowledge, there has not been any site assessments, environmental impact studies, documented reason(s) for such urgent need, or proposed timing for completion. I am beginning to wonder if this proposed private system even has the approval from Charlotte County or the State of Florida. We have never had any documentation that leads me to believe that Environmental Utilities has any experience in the installation, or maintenance of any waste water system EVER. As far as I can find there is no evidence that leads me to believe that Environmental Utilities has ever done anything along these lines, yet we are asked to accept their proposal. Where is the evidence of their ability to prove that they will not start and go bankrupt, price gouge, or even complete the project that will be in 100% compliance with the sanitary codes of Charlotte County or the State of Florida. If this information does exist, it certainly has not been made

easily available to the general public. There isn't even a performance bond offered as good faith to the owners of this beautiful island. Have you noticed the lack of evidence?

Then there is the nightmare that appears to be valid if there is a power outage that the proposed wastewater system would only be functional for a short period of time before we would be mired in sewage. Talk about a biohazard for all residences. What about the environmental impact of that? Personally, I am not certain how anyone would willingly submit their valuable property to an untried, apparent money grabber evidenced by a company that proposes a monthly fee of approximately \$178, which is more than Rotunda residences pay for water AND sewer. Why would anyone agree to such unreasonable terms?

Finally there is a potential expensive upgrade to electrical systems for homes, at the owners expense, plus a potential destruction of landscape and private property. There has been no evidence or information that addresses all of these concerns for me, my husband and almost every person on this island. I have heard nothing from Environmental Utilities regarding help with financial costs, especially for those who are on fixed incomes. We are not all wealthy on this island contrary to some beliefs.

Here is a summary of items that have little or no documentation or explanation:

1. Documented environmental impact statements
2. Real costs to home owners for:
 1. Initial hook up
 2. Damage to property
 3. Upgrading of electrical systems
 4. Monthly cost of sewerage alone not including water costs
 5. Potential requirement for generators, also at the homeowner's expense
3. Utility easements – EU has claimed ownership of a utility easement beginning at the house and going to the point of connection on the road at the homeowners expense.
4. Destruction of nesting sites and habitats for endangered species such as gopher turtles,
5. No evidence of any plan for maintenance of lines, the system, whatever that may be, or equipment to keep the system running Yet there is a potential of homeowners incurring outrageous monthly bills.
6. What about the potential leakage of the lines that may or may not be properly installed under the inter coastal waterway?
7. The cost to the homeowners for the destruction of a perfectly maintained and functioning septic system.
8. There is going to be an unreasonable cost to homeowners that do not live on the island full time, but will have to incur the onerous proposed cost to them.

Let me ask you, would you want to have this organization doing major sanitary work in your neighborhood? I am guessing not!

For all the reasons listed and detailed in this letter, **I am formally requesting that the PSC DENY EU's application for wastewater service.**

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Sincerely,

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Susan Noto
181 North Gulf Boulevard
574-315-2654

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