

Charlie Smith

From: Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 12:58 PM
To: 'Randy Blalock'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Good afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Randy Blalock,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240032, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Best regards,

Charlie Smith II

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
850-413-6770

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From: Randy Blalock <randyrblalock@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 10:53 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Chairman La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Paul Blalock <paulblalock505@gmail.com>; Randy Blalock <randyrblalock@gmail.com>
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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Public Service Commission

RE: Docket #20240032-SU

To: Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to you today to ask the Public Service Commission (PSC) to please deny the recent Application for certificate to provide wastewater services in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC. (Docket # 20240032-SU). My husband and I purchased our home on Don Pedro Island last June because we loved the old Florida lifestyle that this island offers. When looking at homes on the island we were pleased to know that it had a septic tank vs sewer system. To be proactive, we chose to have our septic system replaced so we would not question the condition of an existing tank, knowing we will properly maintain our new septic tank. Having lived in Florida for our entire lives, we have seen how sewer system pollution has become a problem throughout the state, especially in coastal areas where flooding occurs after major rains, storms, and hurricanes. We are opposed to the new proposal for a central sewer system. Our concerns for our island are the following:

1-We have not heard of or had a conversation with any of our neighbors on the island that requested the change from septic to sewer. Who is requesting this change? Is there a large group of property owners that are in favor of the change?

2-We have not been given or found any factual evidence that a central sewer system is more environmentally friendly, has more advantages, or is better than a septic system.

3-What experience does Environmental Utilities have in wastewater systems? Do they have the financial backing to support emergency situations and constantly maintain their systems over the years to prevent leakage and harm to our beautiful island and surrounding waterways?

4-The costs associated with the new system (Hook-up, increased electric bills, generators, tree removal) will be a hardship on many and without proven evidence of the advantages. This change should be our choice and not one of someone who does not live on the island.

5-The infrastructure of our island will be disrupted with the placement of a new system that will affect property owners, wildlife (some endangered), property rights, and traffic.

6-Potential leaks in future if not maintained or damaged.

We personally would not choose to have a central sewer system installed on Don Pedro Island and hope you will consider denying the recent application for certificate to provide wastewater services in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC. (Docket # 20240032-SU). We have stated our concerns and our desires as property owners at 391 Kettle Harbor Dr., Placida FL and strongly feel that it should be the island property owners that make this decision because we are the ones that live and care for our special island.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Randy Blalock

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Placida FL 33946

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