

Yvette Gillespie

From: Yvette Gillespie on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:56 AM
To: 'Sandy MacKinnon'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Good morning Sandy MacKinnon,

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.

Sincerely,

Yvette Gillespie

Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
ygillesp@psc.state.fl.us
Phone: (850) 413-6195

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From: Sandy MacKinnon <smackinnonadm@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:42 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Palm Estates <pie@palmislandestates.org>; Robin Madden <robinmadden@islanderproperties.com>; Beach To Bay Larry And Lucy Herman <4larryherman@gmail.com>
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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From: Sandy MacKinnon <smackinnonadm@gmail.com>
Date: April 17, 2024 at 4:23:00 PM EDT
To: "A.D MacKinnon." <smackinnonadm@gmail.com>
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

Good Day to all

My name is Alex D Mackinnon and I own two properties covered under the above Docket number both located on Don Pedro Island with corresponding address of 400 S gulf Blvd and unit 28 South gulf blvd having owned correspondingly for 27 Years and 35 years. Both of these properties are second homes which I own and are used as such for our family , obviously part time. I might add that the majority or units or homes on the island are used as second homes and therefore DO NOT have the normal flow of waste water into the septic systems. In addition perhaps a year ago I saw a county vehicle at the end of my one driveway and he was walking the septic system. Nice guy, I inquired as to the “Why” and he explained he was checking for leaching and that he checked all systems periodically for that. I further asked if there are problems on the island with leaching , and he said “no”. That in its self should be a testimony and reason for the PSC to check with the EPA or whoever as to their findings and search further into the minds of those who are suggesting what is being suggested.

In short, I do not feel a need for a central sewer system. When one examines the proposal, the provider and their credentials, the costs and the benefits, there are NO winners except an inexperienced contractor . The extremely critical element, should this contractor fail the county, the state or the PCS as I understand it does not backup and become the safety net of the island and run the system. I have had septic systems and lift stations my entire life and the most reliable are those with no moving parts is by far the best septic system. The engineering “nightmare” that is purposed for each condo or house is a mechanical, high maintenance, non reliable system that becomes the owner’s responsibility. Usually this type of system is used in more remote areas or where gravity of flow is not available . Definitely not practical for every house ,condo factory or office building.

Having said the above the following is my simple response to the proposal:

1. There is not a proven need for the proposed system
2. I know of no others who have requested such.
3. I am very concerned as are others that EU is a private company for profit, with little or no experience or a track record in what they are proposing, or any track record on waste disposal . Has the PSC or anyone checked the credit records of the company and experience that you can share with the homeowners on the subject provider??
4. Who is responsible for rate setting and over all government guidelines to make sure the users are being looked after and not being taken advantage of?
5. Does the provider propose a sewage treatment on the island and if so where? Nasty stuff usually not in residential neighborhoods or tourists destination.

In summary, this is a very pristine set of islands who pay much of our own way in there is no bridge to access the islands. We have participated with the county on internal bridges to cross island canals, fire and EMS we help to absorb county costs and even shell roads, paying for trips on a private barge \$50. Round trip and in most cases pay non homestead taxes because of a good majority of the properties are second homes. We definitely pay a lot of our own way.

I would plead with you being a avid boater ,fisherman water front property owner and an Absolute love of clean waters and waterways to put all your efforts into protecting the water we all love from the cities who periodically have wastewater accidents or when heavy rains over load the sewer systems , or the phosphate pits in manatee county brake thru the dykes and overflow into our bays and streams and spend monies or efforts on the huge red tide fish kills that line our shores and drive owners or tourists away and kill thousands of fish that all of the sport fisherman love and Commercial fisherman starve when the red tide comes to our waterways . Lets fix a few of those before fixing something that is not broken—PLEASE

I respectfully submit this as a property owner and a business owner who has dealt with all of the above and feels strongly about our environment. This project in the writer's opinion is not worthy of any further consideration and I would plead with you and your colleagues to reconsider that fact we on those little islands do not need what is being proposed .

Respectfully submitted,

Mr Sandy Mackinnon

PS

I did not intentionally leave Commissioner Pssidomo or Graham off the list but was unable to find the proper email for them. If you could please forward to them it would be appreciated

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