

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 7:21 AM
To: 'Robby Anderson'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

Good morning,

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,

Brian Schultz

Commission Deputy Clerk II
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.413.6770

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From: Robby Anderson <robby.anderson13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 5:20 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith <Commissioner.Passidomo.Smith@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Commissioners,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed central sewer system project for Don Pedro Island, Knight Island, and Little Gasparilla Island. As a resident of this community, I strongly believe that the project, as currently proposed, is not in the best interest of our environment, economy, and the well-being of our residents. Therefore, I respectfully urge you and your colleagues to please decline the proposed implementation of the central sewer system.

There are several critical reasons why I believe this project should not move forward:

1. Environmental Impact

One of the primary concerns with the proposed central sewer system is the potential for significant negative environmental consequences. The installation of such a system could lead to the disruption of our precious local ecosystems. The construction process would involve damaging excavation and the alteration of natural habitats. This not only threatens biodiversity but may also risk contamination of our water sources should the system fail during a long-term power outage cause by the storms our barrier island is prone to.

Moreover, we rely on individual septic systems, which are far more sustainable and environmentally friendly when properly maintained. A large-scale central sewer system could ultimately exacerbate pollution issues rather than resolve them.

2. High Costs and Economic Burden

The financial impact of implementing a central sewer system is another critical issue. The cost of installation and maintenance would be substantial, and this project will have a significant financial impact for all of us islanders who are already burdened financially by the recent hurricanes that have severely damaged our homes on the island. The fact this is being forced upon us feels wrong. The proposed fees are extremely high for a project that an overwhelming majority of islanders OPPOSE. For many in our community, especially those on fixed incomes, this could become an unbearable financial burden.

Furthermore, the central sewer system may not be necessary for our community at this time, as residents currently use private septic systems that function adequately. The proposed system would essentially require significant investments in infrastructure where it will not provide enough tangible benefits to justify the costs.

3. Disruption to the Community

The construction of a central sewer system would create significant disruptions to daily life. Roads may need to be torn up, the ferry lines will be outrageous and daily activities will be significantly impacted.

Additionally, the project could result in a loss of property value as residents face the inconvenience of construction and potential changes to the character of our special and fragile island. This could lead to discontent among property owners, as well as an overall decline in the quality of life for those who live here.

4. Lack of Community Consensus

The lack of widespread community consensus about this initiative is troubling, and it is essential that local residents are consulted and engaged before making a decision that will impact their lives for decades to come. Majority of residents are not convinced that this is the best course of action, and without their full support, the project may only foster division within the community.

In conclusion, while I understand the desire to improve infrastructure, I firmly believe that the proposed central sewer system is not the right solution for our community. Its environmental, economic, and social implications are far-reaching and potentially harmful, and I urge you to decline EU's application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Captain Rob Anderson
230 Bocilla Drive
(813) 774-1513