

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 11:09 AM
To: 'sdoer134@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: FW: water and sewage increase
Attachments: psc water letter2.pdf

Good Morning, Ms. Doerrer:

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket Number 20190071, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Thank you!

Toni Hover

*Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: (850) 413-6467*

From: Sue Doerrer <sdoer134@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: water and sewage increase

To The PSC:

Docket # 20190071-WS

My name is Sue Doerrer. My husband Curtis and I are homeowners and certificate owners in Deer Creek RV Golf and Country Club, Inc. in Polk County. Known as Deer Creek.

I would like to take a moment of your time to explain to you the complexities of our community.

Deer Creek consists of 7 phases of various homeownership properties.

Phase one (1) is Mockingbird Ridge. Through court proceedings more than 25 years ago, Mockingbird was allowed to break away from the Deer Creek Community. Their water comes from Rt. 27, down 1/3 of Deer Creek Blvd. and goes through a separate meter. Mockingbird pays Polk County water and sewage but Mockingbird does not pay for upkeep or repairs to the 1/3 of the water pipe nor do they pay for the use, upkeep or repairs to the Deer Creek lift station.

Phase two A & B (2) is made up of 2 sections because of court proceedings also many years ago. Section A split away to remain an RV only camp area called Fawn Ridge. They have a separate water main and pay Polk County for water and sewage. Their sewage is also pumped through the Deer Creek lift station and they do not pay for the use, upkeep and repairs to the lift station.

Phase 2B is Regal Ridge. Regal Ridge is a cooperative community and does pay water and sewage to the Deer Creek Utility. Regal Ridge also does not pay for the use, upkeep or repairs of the Deer Creek lift station.

Phases three A, B & C (3) and four (4) are known as Osprey Point, Eagles View, Partridge Pars and Regal Pointe respectively. My husband and I live in Eagles View. All 4 of these phases are under the Deer Creek Utility and pay for water and sewage through the utility. However, none of our water and sewage bill goes toward the use, upkeep or repairs to the Deer Creek lift station. We are known as the "core 4" because, through many years ago of court proceedings, the above mentioned (3) phases do not pay for any of the maintenance of the Deer Creek Community. This burden falls upon the core 4.

In fact, we have 7 phases pumping sewage through the Deer Creek lift station and none of us are paying for any upkeep or repairs to our lift station. When we have to purchase a new pump or if the lift station should fail, the core 4 would have to cover the pay the costs to keep the lift station operational. This would be a huge burden to the core 4.

There is one more very important entity included in this scenario and that is the two retail strip malls in front of the Deer Creek Community on Rt. 27 called Deer Creek Crossing.

In the mall on the south side of Deer Creek Blvd is a major restaurant called "Ovations" and several retail stores and the CenterState Bank. The south side pays their water and sewage through the Deer Creek Utility, they do not pay for upkeep or repairs that may be needed to the Deer Creek lift station.

The north side of the Deer Creek Crossing mall which includes the Polk County Tax Collector bldg. and many retail stores and a Taco Bell and Subway restaurant. This north side of the mall have their own water meter and pays their water and sewage bill to Polk County but, their sewage is pumped through the Deer Creek lift station also. Of course, they do not pay for the upkeep or repairs to our lift station.

I agree with the premise that the Deer Creek Utility should be able to charge monies from all the Deer Creek Phases to maintain a viable lift station for our community. As I and others here have calculated, Deer Creek is asking for a 266+% increase in our water rate and about a 45% increase in the sewage rate. These are

egregious rates of increase and with the Deer Creek Corporation being a “not for profit” corporation it is unconscionable for the Deer Creek Utility to expect this as a “fair rate of return on their investment”.

With the assistance of the Public Counselor and the PSC, I implore you to reject this outrageous rate of increase and to use your best judgement as to what a fair rate of return on investment should be.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sue Doerrer

134 Arnold Palmer Dr

Eagles View