

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 8:17 AM
To: 'art knighten'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket 20200226-SU

Good Morning, Art Knighten.

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200226, 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

-----Original Message-----

From: art knighten <captartknighten@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 4:02 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner 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>
Subject: Fwd: Docket 20200226-SU

>
> My name is Art Knighten, I'm retired and owner of the property at 130 Bocillia Dr on Don Pedro Island in the proposed sewer area. I am writing you because of my concern of the proposed private sewer system for our beautiful island and way of life. With all do respect, not living on our island I'm sure it's hard to understand our life style and pride we as owners take in our island.
> My wife and I spent a large portion of our life savings to purchase our modest home on the island. Our septic tank passed inspection when we bought our home and has worked fine ever since. EU has told us they don't know what it will cost to destroy our perfectly good septic tank and what cost we will be forced to pay for the tap on fee, but understand it can be upwards of \$20,000, with monthly fees starting at \$178 That's twice what the Rotunda pays for both water and sewer and it is guaranteed to increase every year. This would be an unnecessary burden on our finances. All this to fix a problem that does not exist and to make a couple of people and EU very rich at the expense of all the owners on the island.
>
> I assure you, if there was an issue with the individual engineered septic systems here on the island we as owners and the HOA would welcome a central sewer system, but the fact is:
> 1-these septic tanks are checked on a regular basis and in the rare case that there is a need to pump out or repair we gladly have it done. Honestly the main issue I hear about is roots from a near by tree which is easily repaired.
> 2-there has been no study done that shows the water quality around the island has been affected by the septic tanks on the island

- > 3- EU has never taken on such a project, where is the history that they will be able to handle this large a project. Will they be bonded?
- > 4 - the company has stated they would increase rates the maximum allowed every year.
- > 6-the digging of sewer lines over approx 7 miles of roads on the island with destruction and removal of hundreds of septic tanks with thousands of dump trucks crossing the ferry system, disposing of their remains and refilling the septic holes somewhere in Charlotte County would destroy our island and hundreds of acres of the mainland would be contaminated and destroyed.
- > 7-with all this heavy equipment and workers crossing the ferry every day for years, it will take hours for owners and guest to cross to the mainland to shop, have Dr appointments, etc and then return home. This is not an inconvenience, it's a constant daily traffic jam from morning to night, no less than 5 days a week 52 weeks a year for the life of the construction.
- > 8-there are many questions that are yet to be answered. The electricity each home will have to supply - do these homes have room in there fuse boxes for more more breaker switches? What happens when power goes out (which it does a lot) does the sewer just back up?
- > 9-any sewage spill whether on land or going under water to the mainland will have devastating effect on the waters around our island. These will be large pipes carrying thousands of gallons of waste which in the event of any spill would be a major catastrophe.
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- > In conclusion, there is no study nor any incident to show our septic tank systems on the island are causing an issue with water quality or a health hazard. The prospect of constructing a private sewer system on Don Pedro and Palm Islands has many more negative ramifications than any positive effect. I see it as one company, EU, trying to take advantage of a situation that they have no expertise in just to make a lot of money for a few people.
- > Sent from my iPhone
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