

Antonia Hover

From: Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 11:16 AM
To: 'Mike Beukema'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Object to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Good Morning, Mike Beukema.

We will be placing the 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*

From: Mike Beukema <mike@westraconst.com>
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: 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>; Palm Island Estates <pie@palmislandestates.org>
Subject: Object to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Good morning Commissioners LaRosa, Clark and Passidomo. My name is Mike Beukema and I have owned a home on Don Pedro / Knight Island for the past 10 years. I am an owner / President of Heavy Civil / Utility Construction Company in Manatee County Florida. My company has been constructing and installing utilities since 1977 thru ought the Southwest Florida. We have completed several contracts for Florida County municipalities to upgrade and convert the failed private utility companies' infrastructure and incorporate them into their own successfully and properly run systems. As a tax payer I believe that our utilities and infrastructure are best suited to be owned and operated by our local municipalities.

The project that I am concerned about is the Don Pedro / Knight Island Central Sewer project. Docket #20200226-SU. I am formally requesting that the PSC deny EU's application for the wastewater services for the centralized sewer. My concerns and reasoning for my request to deny EU's application are as listed below:

- I believe that a project of this size, magnitude and environmental impacts should be run by an experienced municipal owner with the financial and technical experience necessary to maintain and operate the facilities per all of the DEP, EAP and all other governing entities current requirements and regulations. 100% of the low-pressure force mains, vacuum sewer systems and gravity sewer systems that my company has install over the past 45 year were all for our local municipalities: Manatee Co.,

City of Bradenton, Sarasota Co., City of Sarasota, Pinellas Co., City of St. Pete., City of Clearwater, City of Tampa, Hillsborough Co., City of Orlando, City of Zolfo Springs, Englewood Water District and City of Cape Coral. Municipal owners have the financial ability and the technical expertise to run and operate their extensive facilities and do so at a fair and equitable rate to the consumer/stakeholders were as I don't believe that EU has the financial ability nor the technical expertise to own and operate such a large facility/infrastructure project.

- The uncertainty of the hookup costs for the homeowners.
- The need for additional electrical work or a separate electrical panel cost.
- The need for a backup generator to ensure that sewage does not back up during an outage.
- The applicant has not addressed a system maintenance and emergency plan. Were as all municipalities are required to have and do so already in place.
- Finally, the environmental impact concern. The Island is truly a slice of old Florida. With its gopher tortoises and native Florida habitat and fauna it is a true gem. This project would potential impact all of that. There will be potential need for tree removal for the installation of the system along with the need for new easements from the residents.

Thank you for your service and your time and also your consideration of my request to deny EU's application Docket #20200226-SU.

Sincerely,

Mike Beukema