

Charlie Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 12:03 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Docket #20240032-SU

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached email in Docket No. 20240032. Thank you!

Hannah E. Branum

Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
[2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.](#)
[Tallahassee, FL 32399](#)

(850) 413-6004



From: David Cohen <david.paul.cohen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2024 12:01 PM
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 Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: RE: Docket #20240032-SU

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To the Clerk and Commissioners of the FL PSC,

Hello,

I write to ask that the application submitted by Environmental Utilities be denied.
My name is David Cohen and I am a full-time resident of Don Pedro Island residing at

8 Pointe Way, Don Pedro Island.
My mailing address is
POB 3123
Placida, FL 33946
My mobile number is 201-600-1450

Not only is there not a proven or even generally requested need for service, there is a specific set of circumstances that would result in catastrophic environmental and humanitarian conditions if implemented.

Given the specific type of system proposed, the substitution of working, gravity fed septic tanks for a different type of septic tank that:

- still collects all solids at the residence and, since it is smaller, requires more frequent pumpouts
- has an 8 hour capacity in the event of a lack of client provided power after which time normal usages of water would be severely curtailed .

it is critical to include into consideration that access to the barrier islands in question is strictly by boat or barge. The island is more susceptible to power outages generally. In the event of a major hurricane such as Ian, when electricity was out for an extended period of time, access to the island was severely restricted and there was a fuel shortage extending across many counties, all island central systems would have failed. Let me repeat that:

The entire proposed solution would have failed and could not have been restored without hundreds of pumpouts after power was restored, access to the islands became more reasonable and fuel for client provided and run generators became readily available.

None of this happened. When people could get to their houses, remediation efforts could commence without the added overflow of every single septic system, no place for people to use the bathroom. There was minimal septic based environmental damage to the many endangered and non-endangered species of wildlife on these islands.

One of the workarounds to no water or power service with the current septic systems was the use of pool water to flush toilets into working systems. Even this small mercy would not work with the proposed system. The new tanks would simply overflow causing even more damage to the actual systems and the environment.

This type of system invites catastrophic damage to the environment, hinders remediation efforts adding millions of dollars of additional damages and adds to the required cleanup effort by adding repair to and cleanup of overflowing septic systems.

Thank You,
David Cohen
201-600-1450