

Jenae Thornberry

From: Betty Leland
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 9:11 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket #20240032
Attachments: Re: Docket #20240032-SU; Re: Docket #20240032-SU

Good Morning:

Please place this email in Docket #20240032.

Thanks.

Betty A. Leland, Executive Assistant to
Commissioner Art Graham
Florida Public Service Commission
bleland@psc.state.fl.us
(850) 413-6024

Jenae Thornberry

From: JeanPaul Jenack <spindrifter@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:35 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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To the Commissioners of the Public Service Commission:

My name is John Jenack and I am a full-time resident and owner of two properties on Don Pedro Island. I am writing to you to register my opposition to the application from Environmental Utilities, LLC (EU) to provide wastewater services to a service area inclusive of Don Pedro Island.

My specific objections include:

1. **No Demonstrated Need**. The County adopted the 2017 Sewer Master Plan which includes these Islands for sewer executed by CCUD (Charlotte County Utilities Dept.). No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for sewer. Amid allegations of nitrogen pollutants in our inland and shore waters, there was no study to determine if they exist and if so whether they were coming from leaky sewage tanks or from fertilizers. Therefore, the assumption that the alleged pollution is emanating from septic tanks is a false one, as is the assumptions made about the presumed ages of the tanks.
2. **Environmental Impacts**: The proposed project is on a bridgeless barrier island with unique characteristics that have not been addressed in this application. This project brings the potential for destruction of habitat and interference with endangered species such as the gopher tortoise. The sensitive environment will affect the cost and feasibility of the project. There is no indication that stakeholder agencies such as the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND), Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida State Parks, The Florida Submerged Land Trust, or Florida Fish and Wildlife (FWC) have been consulted. Plans appear to include a subaqueous crossing under a waterway required to access many homes on the island. DEP permits would be required for destruction of flats and mangroves; FWC approvals would be necessary for destruction of endangered and threatened species habitat. None of these issues have been addressed, and these are only a few of them. The acquisition of easements has not been addressed in EU's application. The question of who will oversee the construction through sensitive and protected habitat has not been addressed. The financial costs of this type of project, e.g. affecting threatened species and protected wetlands and shorelines, have not been addressed.

For these and other reasons, I am requesting that you deny Environmental Utilities' application for certification of this wastewater service area. Thank you for your consideration.

John C. Jenack
121 Kettle Harbor Drive
141 Kettle Harbor Drive
Don Pedro Island, FL

Jenae Thornberry

From: Meryl Schaffer <merylschaffer@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 7:07 PM
To: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
VIA EMAIL: clerk@psc.state.fl.us

Re: **Docket #20240032-SU**

To the Commissioners of the Public Service Commission:

My name is Meryl Schaffer, owner of two properties on Don Pedro Island and a full-time resident of the Island for the past 24 years. I am writing to you to register my opposition to the request from Environmental Utilities, LLC (EU) to provide wastewater service in the areas specified in their application contained in Docket number 20240032-SU. This application for certification includes Knight Island and Don Pedro Island.

I specifically object to this application owing to the lack of an evidence-based definitive need for service.

A virtually identical application by this particular utility was previously adjudicated at an administrative hearing on February 8th and 9th, 2022. The Commission denied the application, determining that there was no need for service and that the certification of this service area would not be in the public interest. I am outraged that the law permits this travesty. Our besieged community is once again forced to devote time, resources and taxpayer dollars to an issue that we thought had been put to rest.

This request from EU should never have been brought back to the Public Service Commission. I seek redress from the Commission via denial of this application. There may be more pages in the current application submission, but there is certainly no more substance nor is there anything new.

Thank you for your consideration.

Meryl Schaffer
121 Kettle Harbor Drive
141 Kettle Harbor Drive
Don Pedro Island, FL
merylschaffer@hotmail.com