

**Nickalus Holmes**

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**From:** Nickalus Holmes on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2025 3:13 PM  
**To:** 'LAWRENCE THEES'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Hello Mr. Thees,

Your additional comments will be added to the docket, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach as well.

Thank you

Nick Holmes  
Commission Deputy Clerk II  
Office of Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
850-413-6770

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**From:** LAWRENCE THEES <Itsail@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2025 3:07 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 Smith <Commissioner.Passidomo.Smith@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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**Please consider these additional reasons why we on the island oppose this proposed sewer system:**

## **The Main Reasons We Oppose Private Sewer**

**No Need for Service**

There has been no water testing or any evidence of need for sewer and there has not been any polling of the community for interest.

## **Excessive Cost**

The realistic estimated cost to the homeowner is over \$40K up front! There will be no “pay-over-time”, no low-cost loans and no way to opt out.

[Learn More](#)

## **Private & For Profit**

Because EU would be a private company running the sewer instead of the county, we won't be afforded payment plans, there's no competition, and no central oversight.

[Learn More](#)

## **Outdated Technology**

EU wants to use a low-pressure systems, which Charlotte County won't install any more because of the excessive maintenance they require.

[Learn More](#)

## **Damage to the Environment**

The proposed sewer project will cause years of disruption and destroy natural wildlife habitats for decades. The island will never be the same!

[Learn More](#)

## **Traffic Congestion**

We all know how long the ferry waits can be and how difficult getting around the island can be with FEMA trucks. Imagine that, but worse.

## **Maintenance & Emergency Situations**

The required grinder pump at each home will be susceptible to our harsh salt air. If there's an emergency repair needed, how will they get here after ferry hours?

[Learn More](#)

## **Undue Installation Burden to the Homeowner**

Each homeowner will have to provide electric permits and service, plumbing and the system will need a generator to run in a power outage.

[Learn More](#)

## **Mandatory Easements**

Plan on giving away an estimated 15' runway of your property from your house to the road that you can't build on, drive over or put anything permanent on.

[Learn More](#)

## **Undesirable Development**

Central Sewer opens the door to highrises. We've seen it on Fort Myers Beach and Anna Maria Island. We do not want to see it here.

## No Oversight

There is no performance bond required and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 31, 2025, at 1:57 PM, Larry Thees <[ltsail@aol.com](mailto:ltsail@aol.com)> wrote:

I was dismayed (appalled really) to read the staff recommendation to approve this proposed sewer system. It points to 29 property owners supporting the application but fails to mention that the large majority of those 29 are family members, friends and associates of the applicant and a single, non-resident property owner of 17 lots which counted as 17 of the 29. When balanced against the near unanimous opposition to the sewer system by actual owner/residents, it is a disingenuous distortion of reality. I own 3 properties on the island. Please count my voice as the voices of 3.

There was absolutely no evidence of any environmental harm caused by our safe septic systems. There was testimony that the applicant has offered for sale his Sewer company for \$11 million upon receiving approval. This makes sense since they don't have any experience in operating any sewer system. Why was this ignored? This is a money grab, plain and simple, upon the backs of taxpaying residents who oppose this entire scheme. The preliminary staff recommendation reads as if it was written by the applicant himself. This is shocking! Shame on whoever was responsible for this inherently dishonest report.

At the very least, a comprehensive environmental study on our specific island water quality and any actual connection to our septic systems should be required before approval. My septic system has survived 3 hurricanes in 2 years without any failure, along with all of my neighbors. At the hearings we heard testimony from 2 speakers about "poop" floating in flooded yards after Milton. Nobody else saw this or experienced this. Interestingly, those 2 speakers are direct relatives of the applicant. I call BS on that testimony.

Luckily, you are in a position to save us from this tyranny by a minority. Taxpaying residents deserve better. Please reject this application outright or, minimally, require environmental testing and clarification from the county as to why they no longer permit this type of sewer system on the mainland, but somehow it is just fine for our environmentally sensitive island.

We pray that you will do the right thing.

Larry Thees

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