

**Charlie Smith**

**From:** Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 2:18 PM  
**To:** 'mjgillan@comcast.net'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

Good afternoon Mary Gillan,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240032, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Best regards,

*Charlie Smith II*

Office of Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850  
850-413-6770

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**From:** mjgillan@comcast.net <mjgillan@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 1:27 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20240032-SU

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Clerk of the Commission,

My name is Mary Gillan, and I am a property owner on Don Pedro Island. I am writing to object to the proposal by EU to install a central sewer system on Don Pedro Island, and to formally request that the Public Service Commission deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

I am objecting to EU's proposal for several reasons:

1. The cost to each homeowner is unreasonable and burdensome. The estimated cost of hook-up for each homeowner is over \$13,000 and the average cost per month is over \$178.00 per month. Also, landscaping and hardscaping around the septic area will need to be cleared at our expense, and an electric panel for the system pump will have to be installed by a licensed electrician which will also be at our expense. We would also be responsible for replacing equipment when needed which could be

often since salt air takes a heavy toll on mechanical and electrical equipment here. These are expenses we were not planning on or made aware of when we purchased our house on Don Pedro Island. This creates an unnecessary financial hardship on me and other homeowners on the island, especially since EU's proposal does not include a pay-over-time option. We would be unfairly forced to take loans to cover these costs.

2. There is no proven need for a central sewer system to be installed on the island. This unnecessary project would result in the destruction of habitat and interference with endangered species that make our island a unique and beautiful place to live. Additionally, the risk is high for a central sewer leak affecting the Intracoastal.
3. The project is poorly planned. EU has not addressed how the system would be serviced in the event of failure, for instance during a storm or other event. There is no performance bond required and no single point of general oversight and recourse for the project in the event of cost overruns or project failure. This lack of planning could prove to be catastrophic for our island.

There are numerous other reasons for EU's proposal to be denied, but the fact is that the risks of going forward with this project far outweigh the benefits. I hope you will consider the impacts on the homeowners of Don Pedro Island who will be greatly affected by this needless and poorly planned project, as well as the detrimental impacts to our unique island environment, and deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Thank you,

Mary Gillan

[mjgillan@comcast.net](mailto:mjgillan@comcast.net)