

**Date: August 26, 2025**

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**To:**

**Kentucky Public Service Commission**

**211 Sower Boulevard**

**P.O. Box 615**

**Frankfort, KY 40602-0615**

**PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION**

**RE: Case No. 2025-00259 – Investigation into the Potential Expansion or Replacement  
of the Bullock Pen Water District Water Treatment Plant**

**Dear Commissioners,**

My name is Dorothy Soutar (Dot). Rick Sordini and I live at 883 Catlett Drive on Bullock Pen Lake. I was lucky enough to purchase the property 4 years ago after retiring here from Los Angeles. We love it more than we can say.

We have always tried to respect the fact that we live on a lake that is not only home to an amazing array of wildlife but is also a source of water for residents in multiple counties. We wake up to the sound of birds singing and fish (and otters) leaping in the lake every day, wild turkeys congregating in fall, and we spend a ridiculous amount of time watching the geese, ducks, herons, deer, rabbits, turtles, grebes and the occasional eagle, not to mention the little birds like cardinals and chickadees - it's just heaven on earth for us. It also seems that everything grows incredibly quickly here, but I'm afraid of using any herbicides because of the lake; in Los Angeles all roads wash chemicals and pesticides down to the ocean, but here in Kentucky everything you use goes into lakes and streams and rivers.

The board of directors of the Bullock Pen Water District seems dead set on building a new water processing plant to replace the aging one, with the express intention of drawing out at least double the amount of water that is currently being processed. I'm not sure what the point of a larger drawdown of water is, considering that at the present time 38% of the water that is processed gets dumped, so maybe the board is hoping to sell water to a new crop of future customers. It seems that instead of building a new, larger water processing plant they could purchase water from the Ohio river at a lower cost but from the board

meetings I have attended the board doesn't seem interested in that option. They really want to borrow \$20 million for a new processing plant.

We live on the shallowest part of the lake which is the spawning area for fish. It's also where the heron's nest and hunt in the shallows. If the lake is drained another 3 to 5 feet (the board never seems to have a specific level that the lake would potentially drop to with the extra water being withdrawn even though they claim to have had studies done), what happens to the fish nurseries and the wildlife that relies on those fish? The turtles dig nests for their eggs on our hill - the first time we saw the baby turtles coming out after hatching was quite a shock, but it's undeniably cool. The dock that we inherited when we bought the property would be useless. The board has said that they would rebuild the boat ramp that's by the old processing plant to adjust for the lowered water level but doesn't seem to have any concerns for the privately owned docks. There also doesn't seem to be any concern for the property values that will be impacted; I have no desire to sell - Rick and I love this place, but we bought ON a lake just like all our neighbors did, and the members of the water board have not addressed this issue.

Rick has happy memories of fishing with his dad and uncles when he was a kid but hasn't been able to go out because of hip issues that are almost healed, so now the hope of being able to fish off our dock is being threatened. We watch all the boaters, our neighbors as well as the people who drive to come to our lake, enjoying the beautiful, quiet and pastoral scenes that we are lucky enough to share with them. I fear that it will all be lost. All the beauty, the wildlife, all of it could be negatively impacted by lowering the water level when there is no expensive alternative that doesn't impact on the ecosystem but is not (seemingly) even considered by the water board.

Thank you for listening to my concerns. I'm pretty sure they are shared by every person who, like us, feels grateful every day for the lovely lake we are lucky enough to live on.

Sincerely,  
Dot and Rick Sordin

  
883 Catlett Dr., Crittenden, KY 41030  
