

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Natural Resources  
For HB 2815

Compiled on: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:23 AM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

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Hearing Date: April 25, 2023 8:00 AM

Jeanne Clark  
Self  
Ennis, TX

Municipal water districts are causing problems in rural areas across Texas.  
Livestock, ground water supply, run off water and sanitation are all problems that should be addressed when giving powers to the authorities.

Ernest Martinek

Citizens Against Ellis County Muds, Inc.

WAXAHACHIE, TX

H.B. 2816 (Jetton) – Water Code

Requesting Opposition of H.B No 2815

Reasons:

\*Gives existing MUDs the ability to divide and use engineers to have full power of infrastructure improvements. This could be abused easily by developers.

\*District may be divided.

\*May include more land in the District WITHOUT County or City consent.

\* May acquire land for a wastewater treatment plant based on Engineers approval NOT City or County.

\*Repeals hearing requirements.

\*May exercise eminent domain to acquire land for a WWTP.

There are currently 23 MUDs that are coming to Ellis County.

There is a major problem with the following issues related to the current process for approving MUDs and MUD wastewater treatment plants.

·The creation of MUDs creates a taxing authority within the MUD. = Taxation Without Representation.

.An approved application exists forever:

There are no performance deadlines for the approved wastewater treatment plant or MUD permits. Infrastructure (or lack of) changes are not considered when MUDs are started years after approval.

Trampling of property rights of surrounding landowners:

TCEQ and MUDs generally disregard nearby landowners' property rights for the benefit of a chosen few.

TCEQ expertise should focus on the environment, water, and wastewater discharge, NOT development: TCEQ knowledge of property development is limited, especially regarding the potential impact of a MUD development at the local level. The TCEQ permitting process for MUDs requires NO traffic impact analysis, confirmation of available and sufficient surface water from water districts, strains on local volunteer fire districts, health and community services, emergency services, and impact analysis on local school districts.?

High density developments: High density developments, such as the proposed Shankle Road MUD, create environmental issues with storm water runoff into lakes and streams that will affect drinking water for communities located well beyond the MUD. MUDs alter existing creeks and waterways with discharge of treated sewer water left to the management of the MUD.

Flooding: The proposed Shankle Road MUD wastewater treatment facility is estimated to discharge 500,000 gallons per day of treated wastewater in a very small tributary thus causing additional flooding that already exists in the creek downstream and flooding of downstream farmland and pastures.

**ALLOWING THE CONTINUANCE OF THE RUBBER-STAMPING APPROVAL OF MUDS BY THE TCEQ IS DESTROYING THE STATE OF TEXAS LANDSCAPE AS WE KNOW IT.**

Sincerely,

Citizen Against Ellis County Muds, Inc.

Marvin Martinek

Ellis County against mud

Ennis, TX

I am against hb 2815 and hb2816

Jennifer Cole

Self

Ferris, TX

There is a major problem with the following issues related to the current process for approving MUDs and MUD wastewater treatment plants. There are currently 23 MUDs that are coming to Ellis County.

Here are brief descriptions of the bills.

H.B. 2815 (Jetton) – Water Districts:

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The District may impose a Standby Fee and is secured by a lien on the property for non-payment of imposed fee.

The creation of MUDs creates a taxing authority within the MUD. = Taxation Without Representation.

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Bernie Martinek

660 Farm

ENNIS, TX

Requesting Opposition of H.B No 2815 and 2816

There is a major problem with the following issues related to the current process for approving Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) and MUD wastewater treatment plants. There are currently 23 MUDs that are coming to Ellis County.

Here are brief descriptions of the bills.

H.B. 2815 (Jetton) – Water Districts:

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- The creation of MUDs creates a taxing authority within the MUD. = Taxation Without Representation.
- An approved application exists forever: There are no performance deadlines for the approved wastewater treatment plant or MUD permits. Infrastructure (or lack of) changes are not considered when MUDs are started years after approval.
- Trampling of property rights of surrounding landowners: TCEQ and MUDs generally disregard nearby landowners' property rights for the benefit of a chosen few.
- TCEQ expertise should focus on the environment, water, and wastewater discharge, NOT development: TCEQ's knowledge of property development is limited, especially regarding the potential impact of a MUD development at the local level. The TCEQ permitting process for MUDs requires NO traffic impact analysis, confirmation of available and sufficient surface water from water districts, strains on local volunteer fire districts, health and community services, emergency services, and impact analysis on local school districts.
- High-density developments: High-density developments, such as the proposed Shankle Road MUD, create environmental issues with stormwater runoff into lakes and streams that will affect drinking water for communities located well beyond the MUD.
- MUDs alter existing creeks and waterways with the discharge of treated sewer water left to the management of the MUD.
- Flooding: The proposed Shankle Road MUD wastewater treatment facility is estimated to discharge 500,000 gallons per day of treated wastewater in a very small tributary thus causing additional flooding that already exists in the creek downstream and flooding of downstream farmland and pastures.

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Mary Warner

Self

Ennis, TX

Subject: Requesting Opposition of H.B No 2815 and 2816

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Here are brief descriptions of the bills.

H.B. 2815 (Jetton) – Water Districts:

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H.B. 2816 (Jetton) – Water Code

- \*Property located in the City and a District is subject to taxation by the City and the District.
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Sincerely,

Citizen Against Ellis County

Kevin Cole

Self

Ferris, TX

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Lori Bowers

Self

Ferris, TX

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Leah Martinek

Citizens Against Ellis County Muds

Waxahachie, TX

Requesting Opposition of H.B No 2815 and 2816

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Sincerely

Citizen Against Ellis County Muds

Andrew Kubin

Citizen Against Ellis County Muds, Inc.

Ennis, TX

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Joann Needham jones

Self - self employed

Ennis, TX

Stop the MUDS

Jeff Pouzar

Self, land owner

Ennis, TX

I oppose HB 2815 because of the following:

\*Gives existing MUDs the ability to divide and use engineers to have full power of infrastructure improvements. This could be abused easily by developers.

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Sincerely,

Jeff Pouzar

Daniel Hunter

Citizens against MUD

Ennis, TX

Requesting opposition to this bill

Tiffany Davis

Self

Ennis, TX

Subject: Requesting Opposition of H.B No 2815 and 2816

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Sharon Tryon, Mrs

Self

Waxahachie, TX

Add Bill and I oppose this.

District may be divided, May include more land in the district without county or city consent, Give them MUDs availability to have full power of engineers for the infrastructure, May acquire land for wastewater treatment plant On engineers approval not city or county, Repeals hearing requirements, May exercise eminent domain to require land For a WWTP. Bad bill for the people that owned land in the surrounding area that have rights to

Joe Crow  
Joe M Crow  
Ennis, TX

I am against this bill.

Larry Honza  
Citizen Against Ellis County Muds Inc.  
Ennis, TX

Vote No on this Bill 2815

Randall Zink  
Citizens Against Ellis County Muds, Inc.  
Palmer, TX

There is a major problem with the following issues related to the current process for approving MUDs and MUD wastewater treatment plants. There are currently 23 MUDs that are coming to Ellis Count Please help us protect our county from the irresponsible invasion by MUD's without regard to how they will destroy the quality of life for so many. There is a place for MUDs but they must be scrutinized and looked at case by case instead of automatic approval by TCEQ. Please help us protect our county.

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I oppose this bill, Allowing the continuance of the rubber-stamping approval of MUDS by the TCEQ is DESTROYING THE STATE OF TEXAS LANDSCAPE AS WE KNOW IT.