

## Koon, Nancy

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**From:** Tim Mitchell <timrmitchell1959@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 3, 2022 7:51 AM  
**To:** Water Draft Permit Comment  
**Subject:** Oppose sewage treatment plant in Roland  
**Attachments:** drawing.png; ATT00001.txt

Faizan Khan

Permits Branch, Office of Water Quality  
Division of Environmental Quality  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317

RE: Discharge Permit Number AR0053210, AFIN 60-05010 Paradise Valley sewage treatment facility on Roland Cutoff Road, Roland, AR Dear Mr. Khan:

I have two especially important requests.

- I vehemently implore you to DENY the permit noted above.
- Please have a public hearing on the issues.

This sewage treatment facility would be for a development called Paradise Valley on Roland Cutoff Road. The same developer already has a sewage treatment facility on Mill Bayou for Waterview Estates. Mill Bayou is the waterway they are planning to discharge even more treated sewage. Mill bayou will simply become a sewer pipe to the Arkansas River. A second sewage treatment facility to accommodate a crowded tract home development, Paradise Valley, (Phase I will have

76 homes on 20 acres), is completely out of character with the rural community area where it would be located. There is inadequate infrastructure to safely meet the needs of an urban development. Additional planned phases for Paradise Valley indicate over 450 homes are planned requiring expansion of the sewage treatment facility, which would dump even more sewage into Mill Bayou. A development such as Paradise Valley, with a sewage treatment facility would be of no benefit to our community but could cause great harm.

Sewage treatment facilities require diligent monitoring and maintenance to ensure no health risks to the residents, domestic animals or wildlife. These requirements have not been met at the Waterview Estates sewage treatment facility as noted by continuous code violations since it began operation. The same developer is requesting this permit just upstream from the Waterview Estates sewage treatment facility. How could we expect the maintenance and operation of a second plant be any more diligent than the existing plant? The history of numerous and even repeated code violations speaks volumes.

Approval of this permit could quickly become an irreversible travesty to our community potentially causing more irreversible contamination of Mill Bayou, by poisoning plant and animal life, by the destruction of the wildlife habitat, by emitting strong sewage odors, by causing more flooding issues, and constant concerns about health and safety issues for us and especially for our children.

A rural community like ours should continue to be individual homes with independent septic systems to help protect the residents living here, the ecology and the environment. We welcome new neighbors to join us in our beautiful community. In the best interest of everyone living in this community, those moving to this area and those who come to enjoy the abundant recreational activities, please safeguard the existing environment. Keep this rural countryside in a natural state for us and future generations. Please do not knowingly add unnecessary chemicals and bacteria to poison our waterways.

Save Mill Bayou - DENY this permit!

Have a public hearing on the issues!

Sincerely yours,

TRM