From: <u>Trisha Johnson</u>
To: <u>Statements</u>

Subject: Statement of Position Submitted by Trisha Johnson Date: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 10:31:40 PM

Statement of Position Submitted

Name

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Docket

A-41 Sub 22

Message

Dear Members of the Commission, As a property owner on Bald Head Island who is just beginning the process to build what will be our full-time home, I am deeply opposed to the acquisition of the ferry, tram, parking and barge operations by SharpVue. As I watch all of this play out, I wonder if our dream of living here that my husband and I have been nurturing for 25 years will come to fruition or will we be completely priced out and unable to afford the barge, the parking, the ferry because it has been purchased by a private equity firm? Will we be able to afford groceries because their delivery is controlled by a for-profit monopoly? Are there any other citizens in North Carolina whose access to their home, their mail, their groceries is controlled by a for-profit monopoly? By a monopoly who is not accountable to its users? Why should the residents and visitors of Bald Head Island be subjected to such? There has been much made over the issue that SharpVue will keep the current management and employees and maintain the status quo. But at least since 2019, the status quo has not been working, the testimony of Kim Scagnelli as the public hearing was extremely accurate of the situation. The ferry, luggage, and tram used to be full service and very orderly. Now it is pure chaos. I too have some neuromuscular issues and having the help with the luggage is essential. Now, the poor men on the tram service are so overwhelmed. I spend time talking with them because I am so grateful for what they do especially in light of my physical limitations. They are disheartened. They have to live with the effects of he current mismanagement and poor maintenance. They are the ones that the public gets fussy with because everything is late, chaotic, overly full, etc. The upper management don't have to deal with that on a daily basis like they do and if they rally cared, they would have fixed it by now. The trams are falling apart, the boats are falling apart. Maintenance of the status quo is most certainly not the answer. Lastly, the testimony provided by the BHA was really disingenuous and a disservice to its membership. The comments represent the personal views of the BHA board but they do NOT represent the homeowners who are members of the BHA. I would remind the commission that in the two surveys BHA sent to members, 56% of the BHA membership does NOT want the transportation system sold to SHarpVUe (23% in favor) and an overwhelming

72% of the membership wants the parking and barge regulated as well as the ferry and tram. If you listen to the BHA testimony, one would think that the opposite was true. Please do not allow the sale to SharpVue. Please regulate the barge and parking also in the question posed by the earlier docket. Sincerely, Trisha Johnson