

Charlie Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 1:02 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20240032
Attachments: objection to Environmental Utilities LLC sewage project. Palm Island; For Centralized Sewer on LGI

Please place the attached in Docket No. 20240032.

Thank you!

PETER STIMMEL

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April 16, 2024

RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Commissioner Passidomo

Commissioner.passidomo@psc.state.fl.us

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed sewage project on Palm Island. As a contractor in Colorado, I bid on and won both city and federal government projects. We were provided extensive blue prints and spec sheets. There was always a minimum of 3 bidders. The winner was vetted and bonded. Having one bidder on what sounds like an unusual, far-from-standard project gives me pause. Cost, guarantees and qualification in similar projects should all be taken into consideration.

The islanders were all but unanimous in rejecting Mr. Jack Boyer dba Environmental Utilities LLC and this project just last year. I have never met the man but in my 7+ years living on the island full-time, I have never heard a positive word said about him. Most of the negativity comes from a water project on LGI that sounded like some questionable steps were taken, leading to an arrest. Have water quality tests been completed identifying the need for a new system in light of the fact that very few residents live on the island year-round (most being 2nd and 3rd homes with occasional weekenders)? Has a study been done as to the reliability of a pump and suction sewer system in other locations?

It seems a lot more questions need to be answered before the bidding process should be reopened to contractors qualified to guarantee such a system. Since we, the islanders, will bear the brunt of the cost and inconvenience of such a project, we deserve more research to be done and more information provided. When a community spends well over \$100,000 fighting a project like last year, I believe our concerns are real and should be considered.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Stimmel

Charlie Smith

From: Karress Slattery <karress.slattery@shorepointhealth.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 12:53 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: For Centralized Sewer on LGI

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Good afternoon commissioners,

I have lived on Little Gasparilla Island full time now for almost 5 years. I would like to be very clear that I am FOR sewer systems on our island. There is a huge need for them. One example, No septic trucks have come out to the island since Hurricane Ian hit back in September 2022. There is a list with dozens upon dozens of people waiting to get their septic pumped. Two on that list are my neighbors. They have been needing and waiting for their tanks to be pumped for almost two years. Our own septic tanks is getting close now and we can't even get on the list because it is so backed up. This is just ONE example.

I don't allow my children to go play in the rain, or play in the water on a high tide due to constant septic tank flooding and overflow. After Idalia there were several septic tanks that floated up entirely and drained all over our island.

The constant fish kill, change in our seagrasses, the newly formed jelly fish that are surrounding our island and waters, all from Septic in my opinion. The research proves it all.

Please consider servicing our beautiful island who has worked so hard to recover from Ian. Septic is that last thing that needs to go.

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