

Lisa Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:06 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Docket #20200226-SU

Please place the e-mail below in Docket No. 20200226.

Thank you!

From: Gil Collver <gil.collver@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 9:51 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

As a homeowner at 380 Kettle Harbor on Don Pedro Island I am writing to state my concerns and objections to the Public Service Commission regarding the potential approval of Environmental Utilities LLC (EU) Application for Original Certificate of Authorization to install a sewer system on our island. First and foremost in my objections is the simple fact that there is no evidence that the existing septic systems on the Islands are causing any environmental damage and in fact routine studies have been conducted under the direction of the local homeowners association Palm Island Estates (PIE) and the Island Conservancy that confirm that fact. Next among my objections to approving the EU application is that sewer systems as a regulated public utility are almost universally provided by public entities, cities, counties, townships etc. which entities have experience, public accountability, internally managed public rights of way and experienced competence in constructing, operating and maintaining such systems unlike this applicant which has none of these attributes. I am also concerned about the mandate to connect to a sewer system when a resident already has paid for and maintained a septic system that is functioning correctly and doing no harm. Even if the decision were to be approval of a sewer system driven by future concerns of environmental impact it should not be forced on residences with existing functional septic system. And perhaps of most importance and subsequently most concern is the issue of fair and equitable rates and charges. Considering that this applicant has never constructed a sewer system there are no verifiable comparisons to determine the accuracy of the costs being put forth and the subsequent rates and charges. Consequently it cannot be confirmed that the proposed monthly rate of \$178.78 which is roughly twice what a ratepayer on the mainland pays for both water and sewer is justified. Logical thinking leads to the conclusion that construction of a sewer system on the island should not be more than on the mainland with the exception of whatever additional costs would be incurred to transport the sewage across the inter coastal waterway to the mainland. A cost which the county system also incurs in numerous situations where sewer lines have to cross creeks, canals and the ICW.

Gilbert Collver
380 Kettle Harbor Drive
PO Box 3594
Placida, FL 33946

gil.collver@outlook.com

269-788-5656