

Lisa Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 2:57 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

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

Thank you!

From: Craig Grant <craiggrant2012@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 2:51 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Fwd: Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Craig Grant** <craiggrant2012@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 26, 2022 at 1:42 PM
Subject: Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

Dear Florida Public Service Commissioners and whom it may concern,

I am requesting that you deny EU's application for wastewater service on LGI, Don Pedro and Palm Island.

I am not convinced the need for this service is the #1 offender of the polluted water in nearby waters. Please make it a priority to clean up the commercial offenders of putting pollutants into our waterways, especially the rivers that feed into our waterways. I did not request this service to be provided on the island and feel this approach is like throwing a bucket of water on a forest fire with each bucket of water costing about \$20,000. Then for the monthly fee of \$215.00 you get a garden hose to continue fighting the forest fire. Not an effective solution and the owners are being forced to pay dearly for a solution that most owners do not want.

I am concerned about EU's finances to handle a project of this magnitude and technical their expertise. The rates that I have seen proposed are extremely high on an upfront capital expense to the property owners and the proposed monthly rates are ridiculous too. As I understand there are only a few right of ways on the island and securing what is needed could be huge additional costs not addressed in the proposal thus far.

These are only a few of the concerns. I also have a serious concern over the principals in EU. As you all know, they currently offer water service on the island. I question their water infrastructure, having seen exposed pipes running down the middle of the sand paths on the island. (I took pics if you like to see) I've seen golf carts hit their infrastructure numerous times causing major leaks on the island creating ponds and making the paths unpassable. I would think the infrastructure would be better designed and far more protected. Since water is such a precious commodity I assumed it would be a huge priority for them to get it fixed immediately. I was

told by one of their representatives that it isn't a huge deal since they get a 7% buffer on the usage vs. billing from Charlotte county. I was also told by the same representative that they would raise their rates by 3% this year because they could. I'm sure it is correct and most utilities would do the increase but showing the insincerity and lack of appreciation was certainly discouraging.

I have been associated with a number private public utilities and they all have performed community involvement and community betterment activities & functions. I have been an owner on the island for over 7 years and have never seen LGI Water do anything for community betterment that didn't involve their personal gain. For example, after hurricane Irma LGI Water used their heavy equipment to help clean the beach debris off Coconut Palm Lane beach access. Not for the island, but for the beach access the principals of LGI Water use for their streets beach access.

The sand road going North & South was cut off a few years back by an unhappy owner. He could do that because many of the sand paths are on private property. Representatives of LGI Water used their equipment to build a new road for island access. Again they offered their heavy equipment and helped with the matter because they needed full access to the island for LGI Water purposes. Hopefully I'm wrong and they have done things for LGI's benefit however I personally haven't seen it.

Only a portion of the island has fire hydrants. Most properties South of Hideaway Bay Beach Club does not have practical access to fire hydrants. That is something I feel should have been addressed when granting LGI Water their utility license as the PSC has required all livable properties on the island to connect to LGI water service. I feel this is something that should be addressed as an good faith ambassador to the island that it serves.

Last year HBBC got into an extremely vulnerable situation regarding their fire sprinkler system and needed an LGI water hook-up for the system. LGI Water seemed to slow roll the fire suppression system connections until LGI Water resolved a request with HBBC. A matter based on a verbal agreement from many years past. The situation was very sketchy and questionable, however HBBC was desperate and really had little choice but come to terms while they were at the mercy of LGI Water.

Again, I would prefer Charlotte County take on a project of this magnitude if it is truly a priority. Therefore please deny EU's application for wastewater services on LGI, Don Pedro and Palm Island.

Sincerely,

Craig Grant
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