From:

Hannah Barker

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 2:27 PM

To:

Commissioner Correspondence

Subject:

**Docket Correspondence** 

**Attachments:** 

RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Central Sewer System - Bayshore Circle 5355 -Palm Island; RE Docket #20200226-SU Proposed

sewer project for Little Gasperilla island; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket

20200226-SU

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached emails in Docket No. 20200226.

# Hannah E. Branum

Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6004

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:47 AM

To:

'Lou Wilson'

Subject:

RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Wilson,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Lou Wilson < louwilson2016@gmail.com> Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:11 PM

To: Office of Commissioner Clark < Commissioner. Clark@psc.state.fl.us>

Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

I urge you to APPROVE the application/permit for EU to install sewer lines in the delineated areas. I am sure you are aware of all the environmental issues that make it critical for future clean water in Lemon Bay this application be approved.

Owner/Full Time Resident 65 Palm Drive, Placida, Fl. Palm Island

Lou Ellen Wilson

(813)690-8136

# louwilson2016@gmail.com

From: Office of Commissioner Clark

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46 AM

To: 'JAYNE KEBE'

Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Kebe,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: JAYNE KEBE < kebefam@sbcglobal.net > Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:11 PM

To: Office of Commissioner Clark < Commissioner. Clark@psc.state.fl.us>

Subject: Fw: Docket #20200226-SU

## Dear Commissioner Clark:

My name is Jayne Kebe and I am a property owner at 18 Palm Drive on Knight Island. We have owned the property since 2012 and I have lived here as a full-time resident since 2016.

With this email, I am formally objecting to the proposal by Environmental Utilities for a central sewer line for Don Pedro and Knight Islands. I am formally asking the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

I am aware of the criteria that the PSC will use to grant Certification including the need for service (environmental impacts, development concerns), financial ability of the applicant, technical expertise of the applicant and fair and equitable rates and charges.

The following are just a few of my arguments and issues with this proposal by Environmental Utilities.

- The estimated hook-up costs have not been confirmed and the rates proposed by EU have changed at least once throughout the application process. This makes me question the level of knowledge and experience on the part of the applicant.
- Additional, but unidentified costs by EU, costs to the homeowners in terms of electric bills and additional electric panels and the possibility of the need for generators.
- EU is completely inexperienced in the installation of a central sewer system; they have never won a single bid for this type of installation. I do not understand how this lack of experience complies with the technical expertise criteria listed above.
- There has been no discussion by EU how they will handle power outages during the frequent storm events and hurricanes out on these barrier islands.
- The issues continue on ....

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my email.

Sincerely,

Jayne Kebe

18 Palm Drive, Knight Island, Placida, FL

kebefam@sbcglobal.net

From: Office of Commissioner Clark

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46 AM

To: 'Jon Goranson'

Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Goranson,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Jon Goranson <goranson@springsips.com> Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:09 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

Commissioners,

My name is Jon Goranson and I live at 2 Pointe Way on Don Pedro Island. I am formally requesting that the PSC deny Environmental Utilities application for wastewater service.

1. There has not been a proven need for sewer on Don Pedro/Knight Island. Water testing has not been performed to substantiate the claims that the existing septic systems are a problem. Property owners on Don Pedro/Knight Island have constructed new and repaired existing septic systems as required, permitted and inspected by the state to the current strict standards. The condition of the septic systems on Don Pedro/Knight

- Island are completely different than the systems on Little Gasparilla Island which are only accessible by boat, not ferry service and therefore cannot be repaired or replaced as easily as those on Don Pedro/Knight Island.
- 2. The financial history and financial capability EU has not been proven. There is no information presented in the application that EU could finance the engineering, procurement and construction of the project including a payment and performance bond for the estimated cost in excess of 20 million dollars. Also, per the application there does not seem to be an adequate cash flow to operate the system after construction which could result in even higher residential bills.
- 3. Environmental Utilities has no expertise or history in the operation of a wastewater system. EU is not a contractor who bid and built a sewer system. The operation and maintenance of the system with regards to equipment and emergencies has also not been addressed in the event of a failure during a storm or any other adverse condition that may occur. In addition, there is no single point of recourse in the event of costs overruns, project failure and project nonperformance.
- The costs to the homeowner for the new system have been estimated but not been firmly established. The hook-up cost, the electric cost with new panels and generators to operate the grinder pump, the removal of an existing functioning septic system are significant and are an open cost to the homeowner. Also, due to the harsh salt environment on the island, electrical and mechanical equipment have a shorter life span and require replacing on shorter intervals, all at the expense of the homeowner. Finally, the proposed average residential rate of \$178.78 is double what the Rotonda homeowner pays for water and sewer.

Based on the above, I am formally requesting the PSC deny Environmental Utilities application for wastewater service.

Regards,

Jon Goranson goranson@springsips.com 970-846-3703

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:45 AM

To:

'Barber, Carley'

Subject:

RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Barber,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Barber, Carley <carley.barber@ifco.com> Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:05 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

Importance: High

Good Morning Public Service Commission Members,

My name is Carley Barber and my family owns two homes on Little Gasparilla Island. I am writing you to formally request that the Public Service Commission deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Little Gasparilla Island is a unique place, unlike any other community in Florida that I have ever been. The absence of an access bridge, roads and cars allow it to remain largely untouched by the commercialization of the mainland. I have been

coming to the island with my family for over 30 years. My parents met on the island in the 70s and my children have been coming to the island since they were born.

In the whole time that my family has owned homes on LGI, we have never ever had any significant issues with the septic systems at either house. The proposed initial cost and monthly cost by EU would force both members of my family to sell their properties. My mother has saved and saved and made sacrifices in other areas of her life to keep her small home on the island. There is no way that she would be able to afford what EU is proposing, especially with no pay-over-time option, and selling this home would be devastating to our family.

Aside from sentimental reasons for opposing EU's plan for wastewater service, there are so many other detrimental side affects that you should consider. The island has one barge access point, on private property and controlled by the property owner. The island paths are narrow, sometimes wet, and lined with the island's beautiful vegetation. These paths are not meant for service trucks and equipment would destroy these paths and homeowners' property. We have so many protected species that make their home on the island, such as burrowing owls and gopher tortoises. A project of this scale would no doubt displace and threaten them.

This wastewater service project does not make sense for Little Gasparilla Island. There have been no tests and no incidents to suggest that there are any quality issues with the water supply on or around the island. The community on the island has a small town feel and when one person is having a septic truck barged over to have their tank pumped, several others will plan together to have theirs done on the same day. Homeowners on the island talk to each other, help each other and take care of their homes and current septic systems appropriately. Approval of EU's application is going to force so many good, hard-working people off the island and cause an influx of big business, rental companies and new owners who do not appreciate what we have now.

I urge you to think about the serious consequences of approving EU's application. We do not need this and our environment does not need this!

Thank you,

Carley Barber 813-323-4815 carley.barber@ifco.com

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:45 AM

To:

'workman patricia'

Subject:

RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Workman,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: workman patricia <nurseoc@yahoo.com> Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 10:56 PM

To: Office of Commissioner Clark < Commissioner. Clark@psc.state.fl.us>

Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

January 19, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Patricia Workman and I have been a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island for 20 years.

I have seen many changes on the Island over those years and am not opposed to change when well planned, and consideration given to the preservation of the Island environment, feasibility of the cost to homeowners and reliability and expertise of the applicant.

- Our Island does not have a traditional road system burying present utility and water lines causes issues with access and disturbing other utilities sewer pipes would be overwhelming.
- The cost to homeowners is unreasonably high. Every time we hire a contractor for anything we pay at least double what it would cost on the mainland. This system as proposed would be an ongoing and increasing cost, unaffordable to most owners, some who need to share their homes with guests at least part time just to pay taxes and insurance.
- New, county approved septic systems are being installed on the Island as needed I had a new system installed by a licensed contractor 7 years ago this would have to be dismantled and filled at my expense.
- Emergency access and repair is very difficult for any utility issues on the Island. Most homes are not occupied full-time. I have concerns about how this would be dealt with.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Patricia Workman

Patti Workman nurseoc@yahoo.com

www.vrbo.com/67924 www.vrbo.com/124301

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:44 AM

To:

'Kendall Reeves'

Subject:

RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Reeves,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Kendall Reeves < krnow123@gmail.com > Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:41 PM

**To:** 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>; Records Clerk < CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

Cc: Krnow < krnow123@gmail.com >; robinmadden@islanderproperties.com; Palm Island Estates

<pie@palmislandestates.org>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Good morning Commissioners and thank you for your service. My wife and I are property owners on Don Pedro Island and will lay out sound reasoning for opposition at this time to the proposed central sewer system on Docket #20200226-SU. I am formally requesting the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service. I do not care to load up this communication with emotion, but I have not encountered such blatant disregard and thoughtlessness for such a major endeavor, as you will see.

First, there is a lot of common sense that goes in to this opposition. If someone starts out by presenting false information as the reasoning for their desire to monetize an idea, the evaluator should not just proceed with caution in review of that project, but avoid it altogether. Why? There is no confidence in whatever proceeds from that point forward. Are they presenting the truth or not? You simply don't know. As facts continue to come out on the true intent of EU with this project, fraud is the word that comes to mind. While EU may consist of friendly people, their intent is anything but what it looks. Yes, there is hard evidence to support this claim, which can gladly be presented if necessary to stop such entities from furthering this business endeavor.

EU has stated that our island is polluting and causing enhancement to red tide. Mere fabrication, for there is no such study by EU supporting their claim. An environmental specialist however was hired, not by EU, indicating the 'polluting' is actually coming from upstream golf courses grey water run off and other yard runoff. Yet EU presents this as their cause for their business pursuit, wrapped around their concern for supporting the environment for generations to come on our island. Simply a baseless and false premise that is consuming tax payers time and dollars for you to review and refute.

More common sense surfaces when EU's proposal is not just disturbing an environmentally sensitive area, but destroying a good bit as well. All exclusively in pursuit of profit. From their plan, it appears no thought has been given to dealing with necessary studies to the environmental impact and endangered species at each homeowners area. Each area is unique as to how it is incorporated into the island, and the EU simply wants to destroy vegetation, dig at will and then tell the homeowner to deal with the after effects. The County, DEP, Army Corps, etc would go ballistic, and rightfully so, if any homeowner were to proceed as the EU's plan proposes. Destruction of eco property with no permitting discussions leaving homeowners heavily fined. More support on this below. This waves a big flag of caution for blatant disregard to authority and slap in the face to all government entities involved. (There is a public track record of EU's disregard and subsequent fines, so they are at least consistent with that aspect) It's simply jaw dropping, how little EU truly understands the nature of this island.

From the information above, that alone should be sufficient to immediately halt any forward consideration. These are not mere words or speculation. Please don't take our word for it, check out each and every claim to see how egregious this proposal infringes on your common sense. This false information has highly upset a very high percent of homeowners on the island as previous letters reflect (submitted by the hundreds). But we are doing what our Republic asks, and write to you, not just to deny the application but pursue monetary damages to recover the costs associated with such flagrant endeavors with the PSC.

Then, there are other issues that would appear to fall under the category of fraud (intentional withholding of information in this case) and thoughtlessness. They range from deceit on intent and installation costs and ongoing expenses, to a fundamental flaw in operation. The island is subject to known power outages on an ongoing basis. (Example: the recent 19 hour power outage) The proposed system is a problem waiting for overflow and back flow problems. It was uncovered, by homeowners, that a generator would be mandatory for the system to fully operate (for some of us there simply is no physical space, yet the system requires such to operate during extended power outages) Also undisclosed was a potential upgraded electrical box to support the generator. (Again there may not be room for increased size of electrical box installation for some.) In addition to the physical constraints for generators and electrical challenges, the proposal has noise and exhaust complaints written all over it. Think back on what it sounds like when a hurricane causes power loss and every generator cranks up. Currently, our island is enticing to a great number of vacation rentals and tourism...but not if you are forced to listen to generators singing in unison with each power outage. This is just common sense that the proposal negatively impacts tourism on the island.

We invite you to ask an independent sewer expert for their input. When we did, wow, the hidden and withheld info surfaced and has problems written all over it. It would not be if, but when a major environmental

catastrophe occurred when generators don't crank up and overflows and back flows occur. Absentee owners, and there are many, would pose serious economic and environmental impact with such a proposed system. You have now been made aware of such potential, so please do your due diligence as PSC's, as this proposal has serious detrimental repercussions.

There are two last components of major concern, especially with a project this size. First, we understand EU is not sufficiently funded and thus fails to meet one of the four needed criteria for such development, and the ongoing business. We are grateful for this PSC criteria, knowing EU must be vetted thoroughly before any awarding of service. Current and ongoing fund raising by EU for this project speaks directly to being underfunded. Second, the homeowner is left in a very poor and vulnerable position for recourse. The entities of County, Army Corps and DEP have very separate supervising areas, yet there is no performance bond or single point of recourse for cost overruns or project failures. Definitely not in the publics best interest.

There is more which could be presented regarding financial overcharging, unattainable easements and endangered species. However, with so much being blatantly wrong and egregious with this proposal causes one to ask 'is there another agenda' by EU? Sure enough, that agenda was recently uncovered. There is much that could come to light and can if necessary, but we will anticipate that not being the case with your denying of any EU's application for wastewater service.

Again, thank you for your time and your service to our communities!

Respectfully,

Kendall Reeves krnow123@gmail.com

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:43 AM

To:

'Gary Buhler'

Subject:

RE: Central Sewer System - Bayshore Circle 53/55 -Palm Island

Dear Mr. Buhler,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Gary Buhler <gsbuhler@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 3:09 PM

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: Central Sewer System - Bayshore Circle 53/55 -Palm Island

I am writing in full support of the addition of a central sewer system and the elimination of septic tanks. As I am sure you are aware, septic tanks are very bad for the environment. These tanks allow nitrogen and other pollution to flow directly into our waterways. This pollution feeds algae blooms, kills fish, and kills sea grasses and is likely a contributing factor to red tide. Also, many of the old tanks are cracked or rusted and are leaking into our water supply and waterways. We can not afford not to install a cental sewer system and eliminate the septic tanks. I am a property owner on Palm Island and DO NOT SUPPORT the local organization(PIE) that is against this proposal. Ignorance to real issues is not an excuse not to keep our waterways and water supply pristine. Please support this program and proceed with the system.

Thank You, Gary Buhler 813-624-4337 gsbuhler@aol.com 53 Bayshore Circle

**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark **Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:43 AM

To: 'Randy Simmons'

Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU Proposed sewer project for Little Gasperilla island

Dear Mr. Simmons,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Randy Simmons <simmonsrandy77@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 2:32 PM

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>

Cc: Randy Simmons <simmonsrandy77@gmail.com>

Subject: Docket #20200226-SU Proposed sewer project for Little Gasperilla island

Commissioners and Clerk of the public service commission,

My name is Randy Simmons, I am a current owner of 8230 little Gasperilla Island, I am sending you this email in opposition to the proposed sewer project and Formally requesting that the PSC deny EUs request for waste water service. There are many reasons for this request .below are just a few. Not a comprehensive list 1. EU has not Secured/ Purchases the necessary right of way for the project as a portion of my property would be necessary to complete the project EU DOES NOT HAVE RIGHT OF WAY to install infrastructure needed for this project.

- 2.I currently my property has a well functioning septic system that is a very low to NO impact to the environment and don't feel that this project is justified, additionally if it were to go through I feel I should be grandfathered in and not required to hook up to the system at the proposed exorbitant cost.
- 3. It has not been determined that EU has the financial ability to handle such a project and I feel that this project should be performed by Charlotte County to ensure system is up to standards if we are forced to go on a sewer system.
- 4 it is in question rather EU has the technical expertise to perform the construction and oversight of a project such as this SINCE THEY HAVE ZERO experience and have not Installed a system anywhere else comparatively. Additionally I don't feel that EU can provide a system that is affordable to the owners of property on Little Gasparilla island.

Thank you for you consideration in these matters as I request that the proposal be denied Randy Simmons

E-mail simmonsrandy77@gmail.com

Cell 812-310-4125

**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:42 AM

To: 'joe.noto@comcast.net'
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Noto,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: joe.noto@comcast.net < joe.noto@comcast.net>

Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 1:28 PM

To: 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>;

Records Clerk < CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

**Cc:** joe.noto@comcast.net **Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Joe Noto and I live at 181 N. Gulf Blvd. #10, Placida, Florida 33946 on Palm Island. Please read my numerous concerns below and so that you understand why <u>I strongly</u> oppose the central sewer system as proposed by <u>Environmental Utilities</u>.

- 1. I do not see the need for this service at this time.
  - a. No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for a central sewer system.
  - b. This project could very easily have a negative impact on, and interfere with the habitat of endangered species such as the gopher tortoise.
  - c. The risk of a central sewer leak into the intercoastal waterway seems greater than the risk of one or more septic systems developing leaks.
- 2. I am concerned about the ability of Environmental Utilities to financially handle this project, and adequately maintain such a system.
  - a. I have not been provided any information about the financial history, stability or viability of Environmental Utilities and their management team.
- 3. I am also concerned as to whether Environmental Utilities has the technical expertise and capability to handle such a project.
  - a. EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer.
  - b. There is no performance bond required, and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.
  - c. It is my understanding that Environmental Utilities has not provided adequate information on how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions.
  - d. What experience do they have with other wastewater systems?
- 4. I am concerned about the hook up and monthly service costs
  - a. Initially hookup was estimated to be \$20,000 and subsequently it was reduced to approximately \$13,000. This makes me wonder if that lower number is valid or was provided only to quell complaints they were hearing.
  - b. It is my understanding that the average monthly bill is estimated to be somewhere around \$178. This is twice the cost of monthly sewer <u>AND</u> water in Rotunda.
  - c. I am also concerned about the cost I will have to incur to install a separate electrical panel.
  - d. In the case of a power outage which we experience frequently, I'm concerned the system's grinder pump will not be able to function for long. I would need a generator to ensure there was no sewage back up during the power outage.

- e. I am concerned about the life of the equipment installed by Environmental Utilities and their ability to maintain it. This could result in future upcharges to homeowners because of the needed repair costs
- 5. Also, it is my understanding that most utility easements are placed in the road right-of-way. EU has claimed ownership of a utility easement that will go from the sewer equipment, located near the house to the connection in the road without compensating me. It's my property and if they want an easement they should pay for it.

So, the central sewer system proposed by Environmental Utilities will have a significant impact on me, a homeowner in the proposed service area. As such, <u>I am formally requesting that the PSC</u> deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Sincerely,
Joe Noto
joe.noto@comcast.net
574-904-7224

From:

Office of Commissioner Clark

Sent:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:41 AM

To:

'Steve Egan'

Subject:

RE: Docket 20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Egan,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC—Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark Commissioner Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 413-6038

From: Steve Egan <steveimprint1@aol.com> Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 1:08 PM

To: Office of Commissioner Clark < Commissioner. Clark@psc.state.fl.us>

Subject: Docket 20200226-SU

### Commissioners,

My name is Steve Egan, with a vacation property at 8270 Little Gasparilla Island, Placida. I am in opposition to the proposed central sewer system that is being forced upon us by a private entity (Jack Bower's company, EU).

Being forced to hook up to this service, at a cost totally absorbed by residents, would put a financial hardship on many island residents, including my family. Our 900 square foot cabin is a weekend place, used about once a month. We barely were able to afford being forced to hook up to Mr. Boyer's water utility, and that was \$5000. Not to mention having to pay to hook up from the meter to the residence.

I don't feel there is a need for service due to the inconsistent use of the property, and the additional expenses beyond the initial hookup charge that is being forced upon us by a *for-profit* company. There have also been questions as to Mr. Boyer's technical expertise and financial wherewithal.

I would also encourage any commissioner that has not visited Little Gasparilla Island to please come see it for yourselves. You might gain an appreciation of the island for what it is not, instead of what it is. Most of us don't own big fancy places on the water. We are regular people that got on the island years ago before the market went crazy. We just can't afford it what Mr. Boyer is trying to do.

In conclusion, I object to EU's Application for Original Certificate of Authorization and would formally ask that the PSC deny it.

Respectfully,

Steve Egan steveimprint1@aol.com
Imprintables International, LLC 1306 Orangewalk Dr.
Brandon, FL 33511 813-453-LOGO iPrintTampa.com

Steve Egan Imprintables International, LLC 813-453-LOGO iPrintTampa.com

----Original Message-----

From: MAILER-DAEMON@aol.com

To: steveimprint1@aol.com Sent: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 1:02 pm

Subject: Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<<u>Commissioner.clark@psc.stat.fl.us</u>>: No mx record found for domain=psc.stat.fl.us

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

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