

Antonia Hover

From: Betty Leland
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 6:23 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket #20240032
Attachments: RE. Docket #20240032-SU; Re: Docket #20240032-SU; Waste Water Management for Little Gasparilla Island; Re: Docket 20240032-SU Please Oppose EU's filing for Waste Water Servicesfor LGI & Palm Island!

Good Morning:

Please place this email in Docket #20240032.

Thanks.

Betty A. Leland, Executive Assistant to
Commissioner Art Graham
Florida Public Service Commission
bleland@psc.state.fl.us
(850) 413-6024

Antonia Hover

From: Sally Mingerink <smingerink@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 5:06 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

Kenneth & Sally Mingerink

Don Pedro Island

Colony Don Pedro I-III

Unit 26

Full time resident

We are asking that the PSC deny the application for the original certificate of authorization for Environmental Utilities LLC application for central sewer system.

Environmental Utilities LLC has little or no experience in running or managing a sewer system.

So therefore, they will sell it and who knows who will be running it. If anyone should so this it should be Charlotte county

We live in HOA with 39 property owners, made up of duplexes and single family homes. No one has addressed how they are going to set up sewer system for our type of situation. We believe there has not been enough research.

This is just a few problems we see and there will be many more to come:

Hook up cost

Electric

Generators

Tree removal and landscape cost

Environmental issues

Therefore we are asking you to deny this application.

Kenneth & Sally Mingerink

smingerink@yahoo.com

Antonia Hover

From: Tri Dang <trindang@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 5:03 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Commissioner Graham:

My name is Tri Dang. My wife (Jennifer) and I own a lot on Palm Island in Placida, Florida, where we plan to build our retirement home starting next year 2025. We received a notice from the Environmental Utilities (EU) LLC as well as Palm Island Estates (PIE) community about the proposed centralized waste collection services, an idea that was rejected in 2022. I am formally requesting that you and other commissioners **DENY** EU's application for wastewater services for the following reasons:

1) **High costs with little to show benefits:** we are living in a high inflation period as a country where everything is more expensive with no end in sight. We don't need another high price item levies on us from a rejected idea by a still unproven team. If this item is forced on the island community, it will force some of us to move off the island due to an unjustified expense. The basic costs of \$13,097 + \$414 + estimate monthly of \$264 are way too high for someone about to retire and most certainly for those already enjoy their golden years.

2) **Experiences in maintaining and operating a wastewater collection business:** running a business is not small feat. Running a wastewater collection business carries even more risks not only to the company but also to the environment should something goes not as planned. Does EU have construction insurance policy to sufficiently cover both the expected and unexpected expenditures? We all have experienced with insurance in the latest hurricane (hurricane Ian) and it can be painstakingly dragged out a very long time. Who will be responsible for surrounding damages due to the "participating" in the swapping out of the existing sewage system? If EU doesn't correct them then are the homeowners expected to pick up the expenses!!!

3) **Ability to participate or opt-out:** According to Mr. Boyer, one of the benefits that EU provides is to create and maintain an environmental-friendly system, where sewage water is collected, transferred, and treated off-island. This approach will prevent wastewater spillage on the barrier island that contaminate and cause damage to sea life. EU's proposed to replace existing concrete tanks with new tanks that made of composite material. These nouveau ideas are unproven as composite materials are not known to withstand the harsh conditions of salt water. According to concrete experts, the best material for sea water is concrete with reinforced steel though even these materials require periodic inspections to address performance degradation. EU's proposal requires full participation with one-year phased in. This is the United States of America and thus, I believe that we have the right to not be forced to accept a high cost, unknown quality of service solution. We, the people on the Island, can address the issue through enforcement and due diligence maintenance of our septic tanks according to the County Health Department guidelines.

Again, I respectfully request that you and other commissioners **DENY** EU's application for wastewater services to Palm Island. It is absolutely the wrong proposal, the wrong team, and the wrong approach.

Please submit your comments to the docket.

Sincerely yours,

Tri Dang

Email: trindang@yahoo.com

Antonia Hover

From: JAMIE GAGE <jsgage@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 4:54 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: Waste Water Management for Little Gasparilla Island

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To all concerned,

I am a homeowner on LGI and oppose the proposal for a Central Sewer system. It's totally unnecessary and solves no issues. Our systems work well, and are already monitored annually by the county. The costs would be exorbitant to owners, initially, and forever.

Have you ever been to the island? We have just enough government infrastructure to be safe and enjoy an "old Florida culture". Leave it alone, please. We don't need a for profit company messing with something that is not broken. Thank you !

Kind Regards,

Jamie S. Gage
8900 Gulf St.
Placida, FL

jsgage@verion.net
941-737-8838



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Antonia Hover

From: duffer2002@netscape.net
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 1:02 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket 20240032-SU Please Oppose EU's filing for Waste Water Services for LGI & Palm Island!

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Dear Charlotte County Commissioners,

Please Do Not Support /or Approve Environmental Utilities application to provide LGI /or Palm Island Sewer Services

As a long time property owner on Little Gasparilla Island; I oppose the approval of the EU's sewage application on LGI and Palm Island for the following reasons:

1. A need for service for the island has never been provided
-environmental testing?
2. Invasion of property rights- the island is a private island with few easements
3. Initial / upfront costs are a huge concern
4. On-going maintenance costs are also a huge concern
5. Any system proposed must have the requirement for few if any pump outs to be required.
Continued transporting/barging of septic trucks need to be eliminated

Environmental Utilities:

The principals of EU proposed system are already on the island providing water services, LGI Water. That group has continually demonstrated disappointing performance to their forced subscribers. Issues I have personally encountered include:

-Billing challenges - I have 2 residences on LGI and I could never get billed properly. i.e. 2 bills got tired of calling to get my balance for one of the bills. When I quite calling and sent in the base monthly rate I was charged \$5.00 for late fees because they couldn't get their act together and send 2 bills. Really?

-Poor waterline infrastructure- bare water pipes physically seen in the roads. I have seen multiple breaks with water erupting. I was told that's no problem we (LGI Water) gets a 7% delta of billing vs. actual water use.

-I added an inch of shell to my driveway had a leak and was told my shell caused the leak, really? If so, it doesn't speak well of their infrastructure. They threatened to charge me \$300 for the leak in their infrastructure.

-LGI faced major damage from hurricane Ian. Did LGI Water help at all with island clean-up? Not that I know of. Even though most properties were not use-able. Did LGI water offer any billing relief? NO.

LGI Water was given exclusive rights as well as mandatory hook-up requirements: In exchange for that we have few fire hydrants on the island with the south end having no access to them. We recently lost a house to fire on the island on the south end of the island.

Instead of any assistance to the customers they have continued standard billing even though many properties were uninhabitable for an extended period of time. I have a condemned condo for since Jan.

19 mos x \$85 base fee per month = \$1,615.00 for a condo that is condemned and I cannot use.

Instead of any compassion or relief from LGI Water, we get a notice that their rates are going up. Last time, I asked the principal why he was raising the rates? His response was, "because I can." Nice answer really.....not courteous, no appreciation nor respect to one of his mandated customers.

If the county believes we need a central sewage system on LGI or Palm Island then I suggest Charlotte County undertake that responsibility and not let another "for profit" utility on LGI.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Craig Grant
9476 Alborado (LGI)
Placida, FL 33946

913-314-4146