

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Fay
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 12:42 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20240032-SU
Attachments: Docket# 20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; FW: Docket No. 20240032-SU; PSC Docket #20240032-SU; Untitled; Re: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; No sewer LGI ; RE. Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; FOR Centralized Wastewater; Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island; RE. Docket #20240032-SU; Sewer System for Knight Island, Don Pedro Island, aka Palm Island; RE. Docket #20240032-SU; Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket 20240032-SU; Request Wastewater Service; Docket #20240032-SU Objection to & Request for denial of EU application; RE. Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; Docket # 20240032-SU; Fw: Objection: Docket #20240032-SU Application; Waste Water Management for Little Gasparilla Island; Objection Letter - Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket #202400-SU; Septic - Palm Island; objection to Environmental Utilities LLC sewage project. Palm Island

Please place the attached emails in Docket No. 20240032

Thanks

Antonia Hover

From: Carol Rowe <carowe34@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:50 AM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Docket# 20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To whom it may concern,

We are homeowners and full time residents of 8160 and 8162 Little Gasparilla Island.

We are in opposition of docket # 20240032-SU. A few of the concerns we have are as follows:

- There has been no study showing the need for a low pressure sewer system or evidence of environmental damage allegedly caused by the current septic tanks and/or leach beds.
- In the case of extended power outages, example being Hurricane Ian, we were without power for twelve days. How will the proposed system move waste without power?
- Forced hook up fees are estimated to start at \$12,000 with additional monthly surcharge fees (similar to our current water bills.) There is no maximum charge limitation.
- What will the impact be to the protected wildlife, vegetation and private properties by the equipment necessary to install said system? Will construction halt for the various nesting seasons of protected wildlife?
- We believe the sewer and water systems should be under Charlotte County Governmental service umbrella.

Please do the will of your constituents by denying this request made under docket #20240032-SU.

Sincerely,

Daveann Ceridon
Carol Rowe

Sent from my iPad

Antonia Hover

From: Chris Woodall <Chris@tranorindustries.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:40 AM
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: RE: Docket #20240032-SU

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Please confirm that this was received and entered into the record.

I did not receive a reply that it was received as most others have.

Sincerely,

Chris Woodall
9400 Little Gasparilla Island Rd

From: Chris Woodall
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 10:47 AM
To: clerk@psc.state.fl.us; Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us; Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us; Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us; Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us; Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

Good morning,

My name is Chris Woodall and I am a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island in Charlotte County within the proposed service area.

I would like to formally request the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater services for the following reasons –

We are a Bridgeless Barrier Island that has a unique "Old Florida" charm. We would like it to remain that way. Approving this application will only promote more development on the Island against the residents' desires.

The Island is still in the process of recovering from Hurricane Ian and more disruption to the landscape would be detrimental. We do not have public, traditional roads and many are simply shell paths over private property. To try to run a sewer system without public roads or roads able to accommodate construction equipment would be almost impossible.

EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer. The PSC approves certification based solely on four criteria: need for service, financial ability of the applicant, technical expertise of the applicant and fair/equitable rates and charges. Each of the other agencies (County, DEP, Army Corps, etc.) is responsible for supervising only their specific area where regulation and/or permitting is involved. There is no performance bond required and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.

The applicant has not addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions. Each homeowner would need a generator at their own expense to ensure their system continues to run.

No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for sewer. This project brings the potential for destruction of habitat and interference with endangered species such as the gopher tortoise.

Finally, there has been no evidence provided that supports a need for service in the proposed service area. Expert witnesses at the last Administrative Hearing refuted the arguments that EU put forward supporting the need for service. Why are we doing this again?

Sincerely,

Chris Woodall

Chris@tranorindustries.com

313-909-3799

9400 Little Gasparilla Island Road

Antonia Hover

From: lia gray <uncpair@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:20 AM
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: Docket #20240032-SU

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To Whom It May Concern,

We are, and have been, property owners at 9810 & 9814 Little Gasparilla Island for over 30 years. We are writing to express our concerns regarding the low pressure central sewer system proposed by EU, LLC. Our primary concern is whether EU has the expertise to construct and adequately maintain the system. To our knowledge, EU has not done this type of project before. Constructing anything on a barrier island is met with unique challenges that require experience and expertise to address obstacles when they arise. Another major concern is the financial aspect. Will homeowners be required to pay a large sum of money up front without any guarantee that this system will be completed in a timely manner or completed at all? Who will maintain the system and provide service if EU becomes insolvent? We also are puzzled by the lack of information provided by EU. As homeowners, we have never received any communication regarding the plans or an attempt to explain why this would be beneficial to Little Gasparilla Island.

We are not opposed to a central sewer system on LGI, but do not think EU, LLC has the expertise to provide this service in a unique environment. **We are formally requesting that PSC deny EU's application to provide wastewater service on Little Gasparilla Island.**

--

Lelia C Gray
uncpair@gmail.com
John H Gray, Jr.
jaygraywhfl@gmail.com

Antonia Hover

From: tandhburns@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:14 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: FW: Docket No. 20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Forwarded as original email for Commissioner Fay was incorrect.

From: tandhburns@gmail.com <tandhburns@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 10:09 AM
To: 'Records Clerk' <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: 'Office of Commissioner La Rosa' <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; 'Office of Commissioner Passidomo' <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; commissioner.fay@psc.state; 'Office of Commissioner Clark' <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket No. 20240032-SU

To Commissioner Larosa, Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Passidomo, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Fay and Clerk of the Commission:

My name is Heather Burns, and I am a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island. The greatest Public Service you can provide to our island community is to deny the application for Original Certification of Authorization that Environmental Utilities, LLC (EU) has put before you in Docket No. 20240032-SU.

I don't know what exactly EU is offering as a change since being denied less than a year ago for the same Certification, but it definitely has not included community involvement or approval. I have not seen evidence of feasibility studies for implementation nor how the proposed plan is better than properly functioning septic systems for our unique environment and isolated situation.

Little Gasparilla Island is designated Rural according to Charlotte County for good reason, and has additional logistical and topographic issues compared to a mainland rural area. Not only is it a low density, bridgeless barrier island with sand paths, it doesn't have a continuous North/South platted public route. Every service, supply, and piece of equipment must be brought over by boat or barge, and the cost of this has steadily increased over the past 5 years. The cost estimates cannot be comparable to what it might cost on the mainland.

EU's proposal puts a heavy burden on individual homeowners for initial expense, including electrical requirements, and uncertain ongoing service and maintenance issues in a salt air and storm sensitive area. Stating that EU will hire the experts is just further proof that they don't have any themselves. Where will these experts be based once the system is in place? Will we need to wait for days for them to get to the island to fix issues? When there is a power outage from either a storm or a transformer exploding, FPL is often limited for how quickly they can get across to the island to make repairs. The EU option has our sewage reliant on electricity as well. If, indeed, Mr. Boyer is hoping to get this system in place and then hand it over to

the County for future control and maintenance, LGI residents will be even less well-served, with no resident control or say in operations.

Well worded applications and nicely drawn diagrams do not give a full picture as to the unique nature of Little Gasparilla Island, and I respectfully ask that until such a time as there is community involvement, oversight, and a better plan for bringing sewer to the island, that you DENY this application.

Sincerely,

Heather Burns

8960 Seagrape Lane

tandhburns@gmail.com

Antonia Hover

From: Scott Almand <scott.almand@smrranch.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 10:59 AM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Cc: Christa Almand; scotthbbc@gmail.com
Subject: PSC Docket #20240032-SU

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Good morning,

My name is J. Scott Almand and I'm a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island in Charlotte County within the proposed service area reference in **Docket #20240032-SU** currently at the PSC. I own a unit in the Hideaway Bay condominiums and I serve on the condo association board as Treasurer and Vice President.

I would like to formally request the PSC deny this application for wastewater services for the following reasons –

1. First and Foremost - The Island is still in the process of recovering from Hurricane Ian and more disruption to the landscape would be detrimental. We do not have public, traditional roads and many are simply shell paths over private property. To try to run a sewer system without public roads or roads able to accommodate construction equipment would be almost impossible.
2. Owners on the island are all financially strapped to the point of “breaking” after trying to recover from Hurricane Ian and then Idalia. This would put even more of a financial burden on many residents, dare I say to the point that they can not handle.
3. We are a Bridgeless Barrier Island that has a unique charm. We would like it to remain that way. Approving this application will only promote more development on the Island against the residents’ desires.
4. EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer. The PSC approves certification based solely on four criteria: need for service, financial ability of the applicant, technical expertise of the applicant and fair/equitable rates and charges. Each of the other agencies (County, DEP, Army Corps, etc.) is responsible for supervising only their specific area where regulation and/or permitting is involved. There is no performance bond required and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.
5. The applicant has not addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions. Each homeowner would need a generator at their own expense to ensure their system continues to run.

6. No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for sewer. This project brings the potential for destruction of habitat and interference with endangered species such as the gopher tortoise. Gopher tortoise relocation is extremely expensive, with cost estimates up to \$10,000 per individual relocation.
7. Finally, Expert witnesses at the last Administrative Hearing refuted the arguments that EU put forward supporting the need for service. Why are we doing this again when nothing has changed?

Specifically to Hideaway Bay Beach Club Condos – The proposed system is exactly the same as the current wastewater plant on our property that serves both HBBC and Placida Condos on LGI, just on a much larger scale. Requiring us to remove our system and connect to another system would be so unbelievably expensive and such a burden to the owners in hideaway that it might push some towards foreclosure. We have been unable to occupy or rent our units for the last 18 months as we continue to try and rebuild....this would be financially devastating to our unit owners.

Please add my email to Docket #20240032-SU

Sincerely,

J. Scott & Christa Almand
Scott.almand@smrranch.com
941-812-0715
9400 Little Gasparilla Island Road

Antonia Hover

From: Mikel Madura <mikelmaduradeec@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 9:55 AM
To: bymikemooneyham@gmail.com; thedrivingprintz@gmail.com; response@gmail.com; powhatanvafoodpantry@gmail.com; omanoran123@gmail.com; billiams1948@gmail.com; americanmadetheband@gmail.com; sborencob@gmail.com; istrollocala@gmail.com; jessicaesmithx18@gmail.com; nolimf01@gmail.com; onecityprayer@gmail.com; evergladesdave@gmail.com; tribalyogainc@gmail.com; net@gmail.com; guestdecorator@gmail.com; pperrigan26@gmail.com; kmhawkins88@gmail.com; floridasbestrs@gmail.com; udellfuneralhome@gmail.com; impactmarketingpromotions@gmail.com; fpandlnews@gmail.com; Office of Commissioner Fay; jengeeker@gmail.com; dadecityfarms@gmail.com; katrina.marshall34@gmail.com; unitedriot1@gmail.com; mrsurfs@gmail.com; auburndaleyouthbasketball@gmail.com; addisonvetreceptionist@gmail.com; gatornbs@gmail.com; gipp5050@gmail.com; emergingfederalplanners@gmail.com; Tara Jafarmadar; morales@plus-designs.com; pensacolaultimateleague@gmail.com; involved.putnamrepublicans@gmail.com; johncotugno@gmail.com; unftampaalumni@gmail.com; baycountybarassociation@gmail.com; dbpizzajoint@gmail.com; presidentucfemsa@gmail.com; moflococo@gmail.com; kayladavisfanningsprings@gmail.com; ewelburks@gmail.com; blmrestorepolk@gmail.com; cantorsdrivingfl@gmail.com; dunnra@etsu.edu; rvparkfl@gmail.com; nahnmiamicchapter305@gmail.com; sheloaded@gmail.com; southflhuskers@gmail.com; derek.forfang@gmail.com; fultonrobin@yahoo.com; bookkeeping.fancydancerstudio@gmail.com; Stacey John; dlwilli02@gmail.com; ethanpayne700@gmail.com; serendibfruits@gmail.com; chevrahadassah@gmail.com; philhonconsulga@gmail.com; debrooke497@gmail.com; harmonytnr@gmail.com; fstasst@gmail.com; harrysantiagojr@gmail.com; michaelagor@hotmail.com; info@florida-divepros.com; arksaves@gmail.com; jacosvengali@gmail.com; boardofdirectors.lmll@gmail.com; sales@rahospitality.com; bartowpubliclibrary@gmail.com; mwellspdn@gmail.com; kwilliams@palatkadailynews.com; edgecombecotton@gmail.com; eglonjames@gmail.com; cperryre@gmail.com; thelavendernetwork@gmail.com; ataxiadoug@gmail.com; richardpaley@gmail.com; coachscott111@gmail.com; coachemiliano24@gmail.com; hungrycrabseafood@gmail.com; windermerebasketball@gmail.com; griswow@gmail.com; newksnewnan@barkineateries.com; 8district-external@uscg.mil; d7publicaffairs@gmail.com; suwanneeriverfarrier@gmail.com; bigjay0004@gmail.com; lwv.baycountyfl@gmail.com; ameenah bilal; cstlpopwarner@gmail.com; guiasbolivia@gmail.com; agsv.area.internacional@gmail.com; sedeguias@gmail.com; email@gmail.com; fxtoyshows@gmail.com; celebratepinellaspark@gmail.com; fnfhurricanemichael@gmail.com; axis.creativearts@gmail.com; opalockarebuilt@gmail.com; robert.manning1956@gmail.com; softballinparkland@gmail.com; ftamelissa@gmail.com; threadsofhopeok@gmail.com; kulak25@mac.com; twomble71@gmail.com; bearsmartwa@gmail.com; startoffsmartinc@gmail.com; acboxoffice@gmail.com; alphagammaum@gmail.com; afscme.florida@gmail.com; lighthousebooksabaa@gmail.com; clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com; mcnlbaseball@gmail.com; ritchierevival@gmail.com; scisar@ritchierevival.com; atlantisswimschool@gmail.com; lisamamph2192@gmail.com; johnbeall86@gmail.com; squires697@gmail.com; cgwaterskiteam@gmail.com; marketing.subaruonlineparts@gmail.com; orhascheduler@gmail.com; magnoliagrillfbw@gmail.com; info@cityviewsd.com; orlandofirepipes@gmail.com; patrickhsiao101@gmail.com;

To: thehangarstpete@gmail.com; ca41dems@gmail.com; fbsbrescue@gmail.com; staugustinevero@gmail.com; libertadclubpascogop@gmail.com; luisanaperez286@gmail.com; rreist56@gmail.com; walkerderek81@gmail.com; reception@stmarkrcc.com; k.g.mukri@gmail.com; info.sfh1@gmail.com; chiefdrlucky@gmail.com; professionalcounselingctr@gmail.com; birdgardensofnaples@gmail.com; harvestholler@gmail.com; chicky86g@gmail.com; davidweiss4shaker@gmail.com; sentinelofficemgr@gmail.com; editor.eaglenews@gmail.com; trampsworld@gmail.com; compassgroupflorida@gmail.com; floridagunexpo@gmail.com; amazonwoodsfl@gmail.com; ysmtstaff@gmail.com; calwar17@gmail.com; friendsofkoreshan@gmail.com; megan.r.mccallister@gmail.com; thecoupleteam561@gmail.com; mlcpcasting@gmail.com; flyingclaire3@gmail.com; angelaorsborne@gmail.com; bluechipdigital007@gmail.com; equalaccess@gmail.com; officesfkm@gmail.com; sunnysweetblog@gmail.com; 1teamsouthcom@gmail.com; fpandbill@gmail.com; irocoysters@gmail.com; adri.djohnson@gmail.com; fsssp4web@gmail.com; flbgfoundation@gmail.com; floridaecobags@gmail.com; nfbf.suncoast@gmail.com; bethvertino@gmail.com; yourwayyourday1@gmail.com; glendaehlinger@gmail.com; fnps.sabalminor@gmail.com; bocasierra@gmail.com; douglas.e.rodriguez@gmail.com; stevelbc36@gmail.com; hsosc1@gmail.com; my.cool.email@gmail.com; mycoolemail@gmail.com; youngstransportinc@gmail.com; trishappello@gmail.com; walkagainstsucide.gainesville@gmail.com; gkgraniteatl@gmail.com; gkgraniteniceville@gmail.com; wcsfink@gmail.com; nubz92@icloud.com; adaptivegolf@gmail.com; melissa.lyn@compass-usa.com; xxxxxxxxxxxx585@gmail.com; ryan.binns@gmail.com; shrimpshack2@gmail.com; conezoneorlando@gmail.com; midnightcookiesgainesville@gmail.com; ameliaislandseaturtlewatch@gmail.com; kcbtomharding@gmail.com; brucehalle@aol.com; famulawlibrary@gmail.com; cruatucf@gmail.com; floridafirstalumni@gmail.com; Michele Rogers; chिकासubancafe@gmail.com; ridgepaf@gmail.com; uff.fsu.membership@gmail.com; draper.ron@gmail.com

Attachments: Auto Payment Request !!.txt

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*Dear User,

Norton Security has successfully updated and renewed your subscription. Your account statement will show the debited amount during the following 24 to 48 hours.

PRODUCT INFORMATION,

Invoice No. : JGHM8768697

Product Name : Norton Security

Expiration Date : 1 Year from the date of purchase

Price : \$ 372.67

Payment Method : [Auto-Renewal]

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with our accounts department as soon as possible if you want to discontinue this subscription.

You can reach us on +1 (803) 810-9432

Regards:

Billing Department

Antonia Hover

From: W COOPER <erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:56 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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April 24, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

Regarding Docket #20240032-SU

I am opposed to a central wastewater sewer system on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI), as I do not see any proven need for one. I am requesting the Florida Public Service Commission deny Environmental Utilities, LLC's application to install and operate a central wastewater sewer system on LGI.

I have owned my home on the island since 1976 and have always had a reliable septic tank and drain field. I have not requested sewer service and do not see the need for this service on LGI. We are not permanent residents on the Island, however, we and our family are frequent visitors to our home on the Island. We have raised our children and now have grandchildren and great-grandchildren that enjoy spending quality family time on LGI.

I am very concerned that the Environmental Utilities (EU) is a private, for-profit entity and they lack prior experience in owning and operating a wastewater utility. We have heard that the initial cost for connecting to the system would be at least \$20,000+ per household. There would be additional costs associated with having septic tank and drain field removed, and excessive monthly costs thereafter. This is ludicrous and not affordable to a private homeowner who is retired, on a fixed income, and did not ask for this service.

We strongly oppose the approval of Environmental Utilities (EU) application for original certificate of authorization and initial rates and charges for wastewater service.

Please DO NOT approve this application.

Respectfully,

W. Ernest and Sheryl S. Cooper

8316 Grand Ave.

Little Gasparilla Island

erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com

Phone: 863) 512-0951

Antonia Hover

From: Laura Roberts <lvr2570@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:24 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: Docket #20240032-SU

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My Name is Laura Roberts and I am a homeowner on Don Pedro Island

I would like to log my objection to the proposed sewer application for Don Pedro, Knight and Palm Island submitted by EU.

My concerns are many, starting with a private utility being awarded a contract to install sewers. I do not believe they will be able to fulfill the obligation to install and service the system proposed as they have no prior experience in this area. I further believe the system proposed is flawed and will ultimately cause harm to our beautiful island. The system proposed will not effectively remove our waste and will require it to be pumped out on a regular basis. The tanks proposed are also made out of fiberglass; there is a very real risk of them coming out of the ground during one of our frequent Florida storms. The system will be powered by each resident's electricity, thus requiring the service of licensed electricians to install power to each individual pump. Residents will also have to install generators in case the power goes out or risk backups into our homes, further increasing the already high price of installation and maintenance of this poorly designed system. The fees this private company submitted are very low compared to what residents historically use.

I understand Charlotte County wants what is best for the environment as do I, but I beg you to consider all the options before authorization is given. Including having the county install real sewers or letting us continue to use the septic systems that are working just fine, and will continue to function with proper maintenance.

Our island is unique in many ways. Please visit here to assess if there truly is a need before you make a blanket decision that will cause more harm than good.

Sincerely,
Laura Roberts
450 S. Gulf Blvd. (Don Pedro Island)
Placida, FL 33946

Antonia Hover

From: John Day <johnday1000@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:21 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: No sewer LGI

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Dear Sir/Madam,

My personal perspective as a concerned homeowner of Little Gasparilla Island and environmental proponent is that the proposed wastewater service will have a devastating impact on the island and islanders. The service proposal has not demonstrated evidence to be better for the environment or residents/owners. It is, however, beneficial for those who stand to profit from the installation and forced hook up for ongoing service. This is an untenable situation. I can't fathom how the installation of such a system wouldn't create massive upheaval to the landscape, not to mention at a high cost to all owners. There seems to be little to no advantage of this project and it represents a major can-of-worms with potential problems in my mind. PLEASE deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Thank you!

John Day
9552 And 9548 Buccaneer Trl
Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL. 33946
Sent from my iPhone

Antonia Hover

From: Kristen & Colin <kristenandcolin@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:16 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Chairman La Rosa
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Clerk of the Commission,

I am an owner of 9752 Little Gasparilla Island and would like to ask you to deny Environment Utilities (EU) application to install wastewater service on the barrier island especially Little Gasparilla Island (LGI).

No proven need for service

On LGI there are a handful of full-time residents and the rest of the houses are only used occasionally on weekends as vacation homes, so the volume is not as much as it is with a full-time resident with large families. The low volume can be determined by looking at the water consumption. Additionally, water quality testing by independent/reputable firms have not been conducted so there is no creditable reason for converting to sewer.

Private property rights

Nobody seems to have an answer when asked why water lines were allowed to be run on private property. Utility easements on our private property especially for a tank and equipment is not acceptable as it we are giving up our rights for any sort of equipment to be placed there which could be a loud pump, unsightly tank, etc.

Monthly costs and EU's lack of experience

If this is truly a need Charlotte county should devise a better plan to roll this out versus entertaining a new company that has never done sewer. EU is owned by the same company that does the current water, and the service for the water has come under scrutiny of how they reach out to residents when there is a water main break or need for a boil water advisory, etc. If there is a spill for the sewer, they have no track record of being able to deal with this timely and effectively. It has been documented that the monthly cost for sewer will be over \$200 which coupled with the existing water cost of \$135, this is \$4,020 per year which is double what we pay for our full-time residence in Pinellas County for our family of 5.

Initial costs

We purchased our house less than 4 years ago and wanted to be good Stewards of the environment and decided at the time to replace the septic system with a new tank and drain field to ensure our house did not contribute to any wastewater issues. The proposal by EU to this new system mentions that our new system will be removed and replaced with a smaller holding tank which does not make sense. Coupled with the financial issues we have run into with Hurricane Ian, and the rising insurance costs, this is a huge financial burden for us and the other homeowners which will force many folks off the island. Additionally, the \$12,000 initial cost seems outdated and we are concerned that it will exceed this and homeowners will be forced to pay this exorbitant bill.

I hope that you will deny EU's application.

Kristen Lagor
kristenandcolin@outlook.com
9752 Little Gasparilla Island Placida, FL 33946

Antonia Hover

From: Doug Young <sentinelsuites@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:02 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Board Members,

We again object to the EU application for a variety of reasons. First of all we thought this was settled business. How many times do we all have to go through process, every two years?

If and when Charlotte County determines that there is a definite need for city sewer service on our island then Charlotte County should provide it and not abdicate their responsibility to the citizenry by passing it off to some opportunist with a solution looking for a problem to solve.

What makes EU qualified for a project of this magnitude. If in fact a sewer system is deemed necessary why not solicit bids from companies that actually have experience and a track record that we all can look at so we can make an informed decision.

In conclusion this sewer proposition is something that the vast majority don't want, it has yet to be determined necessary, and if it is Charlotte County should be the entity that provides it.

Thanks for listening,

Doug & Joyce Young
221 N Gulf Blvd
6 Pointe Way

Antonia Hover

From: Brittany Essig <brittanybythebay@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; governorrn.desantis@eog.myflorida.com; ltgovernorjeanette.nunez@eog.myflorida.com
Subject: FOR Centralized Wastewater

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Dear Commissioners,

If not now, when? Our environment, specifically our waterways, are at great risk. The evidence is clear. As a local resident of Englewood, a soon to be property owner in Charlotte County (1654 Tarpon Ave), and a business owner in Charlotte County, I am in strong support for the implementation of a centralized sewer system. The current reliance on septic systems is having a detrimental effect on our local environment, community and economy.

I have two businesses in Charlotte County; one of which is real estate. When I was showing property on Little Gasparilla Island last year, after a high tide, there was clear evidence of septic waste on the road. The buyers were disgusted. The effect of this is multifaceted. First, it was a safety concern. Second, it negatively impacted the buyers (and my) desire to be on the island, let alone make an investment there. And lastly, our poor wildlife and beauty of such a place is being compromised. Shouldn't fragile, more vulnerable land such as these barrier islands be protected from septic waste? I understand that many many years ago centralized sewer systems weren't even an option but now they are. Why wouldn't we want to preserve what we have before it's negatively impacted? Our land value will hold and hopefully increase with this improvement.

The bottomline is simple: the environment, the wildlife, and our waterways are all being hurt by the lack of a centralized sewer system. Now is the time.

You know that saying, "More money, more problems"? Well, that goes with this. More people, more poop. Yikes. If not now, when? Please, please help.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Brittany Essig (LMHC & Realtor)

--

Warmest Regards,

Brittany Essig, Realtor®
Licensed Sales Associate



Cell: [941-626-0632](tel:941-626-0632) | Fax: [941-698-1403](tel:941-698-1403)

Email: Brittanybythebay@gmail.com

Search for your piece of paradise: www.ParadiseExclusive.com

Main Office | 8300 Wiltshire Drive, Suite 3, Port Charlotte, FL 33981

Placida Office | 5855 Placida Road, #302, Englewood, FL 34224

Boca Grande Office | 471 Park Avenue, Boca Grande, FL 33921

Dearborn Office | 200 W Dearborn Street, Englewood, FL 34223

Antonia Hover

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:10 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
To: Commissssioner.Passidomo@psc.stste.fl.us <commissssioner.passidomo@psc.stste.fl.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 04:02:13 PM EDT
Subject: Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
To: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us <commissioner.larosa@psc.state.fl.us>;
Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us <commissioner.clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.us
<commissioner.passidomo@psc.state.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 12:14:40 PM EDT
Subject: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

Dear Commissioners,

I spoke at the FPSC hearing and sent a letter in favor of septic to sewer conversion. I was shocked to hear that we were turned down. I do not think they understood that we were requesting septic to sewer. I live on LGI, and am a full time resident. This is our only home. No second home. We built our home and moved here from Hernando County. We had a smaller home on the island and decided to live out our retirement on LGI. So we sold our vacation home and built our new home. We moved in 2010. We had to put in an ATU, County permit #273187. When we moved in we had no idea what that meant until the County came to inspect our unit and I received a bill for inspection, The inspector explained everything to me, including his opinion, "that septic to sewer would most likely be in the near future for the barrier islands." He stated that 'it would be environmentally better for our ECO SYSYTEM."

Currently, we pay the County for the permit and inspection, but they never come to inspect (we have video cameras) and we pay Martin Septic service, who do come out and inspect every 6 mo.

My concern is that currently, we only have ONE service provider, who will come out to the island to maintain and pump out our septic systems. I am asking the Board to please let us know how this will be handled if Martin Septic decides not to service our Island any longer OR if we lose the barge service needed to get service trucks over to the island. Right now the barge service comes out of ELDREDS MARINA. THEY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT TO SELL THE MARINA. SO THIS COULD BE A BIG PROBLEM!

It is very disappointing to know, that presently there is a company who is willing and able to establish septic to sewer conversion, who has been turned down. I am deeply concerned that we will one day, unexpectedly, have a huge problem on our hands.

I requested that the County send their contingency plan for the Island regarding Sewer systems, maintaining and assuring barge service for their trucks. To date, we have received no reply.

We would feel much better knowing that our elected officials are preparing for the future of our barrier Islands and the surrounding waters.

Sincerely,
Karyn & Art Flatau
9148 Grand Ave.
Placida, Fl 33946

Home 941 697 0186
Cell 352 650 5751

Antonia Hover

From: Mike Riley <mikenriley@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:54 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
Cc: 'Meryl Schaffer'; 'Linda Cotherman'; 'Meighan Kerr'
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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My name is Michael Riley

I am a Florida resident and property owner of 220 Kettle Harbor Drive, Don Pedro island, which is within the boundaries of the proposed service area of Environmental Utilities, Inc. (EU) application for waste water service.

I have lived at this address for over 15 years.

I object to the proposal under docket #20240032-SU and ask the Public Service Commission to deny the application for original certificate of authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Basically there is no proven need to do a 'septic to sewer' conversion in this service area. The water quality around our bridgeless barrier islands is good and the issues with the Lemon Bay water quality (high level of nutrients) has been found to be caused primarily by Charlotte County Utilities Recycle Water system which does not meet federal recycle water standards. Many forward thinking coastal counties have instituted a moratorium on septic to sewer conversions until each county can bring their own contaminating recycle water within federal standards. This process takes from 3 to 10 years to accomplish, yet Charlotte County has not seen fit to do a moratorium on conversions, and is in support of this private party septic to sewer conversion, which I do not understand – clean your own house before blasting others without proven need.

Our Islands are blessed with having a population of people that are environmentally conscious. We have the Bocilla Islands Conservancy, Inc. (BICI) to thank for implementing various programs to help maintain our islands attitude for nature and education on environmental issues.

BICI has a Gopher Tortoise relocation program to safely relocate this endangered species on new home sites. They also help residents build a Tortoise berm to provide habitat, and honor those with 'Tortoise Friendly Yards' (a unique and celebrated program by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservancy Commission).

BICI got our islands certified as a 'Community Wildlife Habitat' per below certificate. 'Palm Island' consists of Don Pedro and Knight islands as well as Thornton Key. Construction of the sewer system will devastate our certification and damage our wildlife habitat.



COMMUNITY WILDLIFE
HABITAT[™]



Palm Island is now a....
Certified Community Wildlife Habitat!

Leading a nationwide trend in community concern for habitat loss, Palm Island has been officially designated as a NWF Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

Palm Island is a unique barrier island that is home to a diverse array of wildlife, native & migrating birds, endangered species such as gopher tortoises, interesting insects, bob cats, seasonal sea turtles and of course, our abundance of fish & marine life. All of these animals play a role in the health & quality of our fragile environment. Some are productive pollinators while others balance the food chain.

Bocilla Islands Conservancy strives to protect island wildlife thru preservation of green space, and ongoing education.

BICI also has sponsored the 'Mini-reef' program on our islands. These are mini-reefs that are placed under docks to clean our waters as well as provide a safe habitat for fish and marine life. This is part of the 10,000 reef challenge that many communities along the Florida coast have adopted with great success. BICI also helps remove invasive species of plants and encourages plantings of native or Florida friendly plants and flora.

One of my major concerns is the devastation to our roadways, trees, landscaping, wildlife habitat, etc. with the proposed sewer system. We enjoy and properly maintain septic systems, sand roads, open spaces, parks, trails, etc. which make living on our islands peaceful and tranquil. One of the downsides of living on these bridgeless barrier islands is ferry access furnished by the Palm Island Transit, Inc., or private boat. Because of Hurricane Ian and all the rebuilding by contractors that do not live on island, our ferry wait times have been an hour or so to leave or regain access to our homes. This proposed multiyear sewer construction project would lengthen these wait times even longer causing frustration and additional cost to EU – eventually passed on to the homeowners in rates.

Another major concern is an environmental spill of wastewater from these tanks and the intra-coastal waterway. With our current septic systems, they continue to operate efficiently and environmentally sound without electricity. I and the other island residents maintain our septic systems with routine sludge removal and inspections to ensure proper operation, replacing when deemed necessary and Charlotte County continues to supply permits for rebuild or replacement. The proposed system would be reliant on electricity to operate the pumps to move the wastewater off island. If the power fails for a period of time (a frustratingly regular occurrence and definitely when there is a hurricane or high winds creating no ferry service), we would be subject to the possibility of a wastewater environmental spill (only a small 60 gallon storage tank without a septic field) which would have a devastating effect on wildlife, wildlife habitats, and also our residents. By taking the wastewater off island through a subaqueous line in the intra-coastal waterway, there is the potential of a horrible environmental disaster in our waterways.

Why does the application allow EU a non-compensated easement for each resident to place their tank on our property near our house and allow them 24 hour access without homeowner permission. EU should have to purchase the easement from each homeowner because granting an easement without compensation goes contrary to real property ownership laws in Florida. This oversteps the boundaries of eminent domain without adequate legal proceedings or representation. It is basically granting access and ownership of private property to another entity without due process.

The cost to Homeowners for this wastewater system is tremendous, especially considering the fact of having to rebuild from Hurricane Ian. Our insurance costs are out of sight, again because of Hurricane Ian and the States position on insurance programs. This proposal would cost each Homeowner slightly less than \$15,000 up front with no pay over-time option. The monthly cost of around \$250 (or \$3,000 per year) is unconscionable for the removal of wastewater only – no sludge. The additional 'homeowner' costs of electrical panel installation, electricity, and sludge removal from the storage tank are too much. The costs estimated by EU have proven to be inaccurate or only estimates and the actual cost could and probably would be significantly higher. We can't afford uncontrolled spiraling costs to force many to move from the islands. This application also **requires mandatory** hookup by each resident – no exceptions, even if they recently replaced their septic system with a new, permitted, latest code system at a cost of \$10-20,000. The newest septic systems being installed are highly efficient and have been proven to clean wastewater to levels that exceed current federal and state levels, so why create potential problems building an expensive sewer system when septic systems can and will work adequately for bridgeless barrier islands without environmental issues.

Septic systems retard high density development where sewer systems encourage it. Our bridgeless barrier islands need to remain an environmentally balanced residential area of Florida that seems to be disappearing state wide on a daily basis.

This application is a repeat attempt to do 'private' sewers on our islands without support of the homeowners or a proven need. The prior application from 2020 was denied by the PSC because no need for service was justified or proven. The 2024 proposed private sewer system design is the same as the old denied proposal. There is already a private sewer system (Knight Island Utilities, Inc.) to handle the Palm Island Resort, which trucks its wastewater and sludge off island via the ferry. I would assume that the Resort would prefer to use the proposed subaqueous intra-coastal wastewater crossing of EU to remove their wastewater, but does not want to pay the same initial hookup and monthly fees as the rest of the service area homeowners. EU has designed their system to handle this Resort's additional volume (at the cost of the proposed service homeowners), but does not include the Resort in their service area and does not provide for any bulk transmission rates or other commercial rates in their application. This question was not answered in the prior case and needs to be addressed immediately.

Bottom line – This application needs to be denied immediately and not allowed to proceed.

I cannot put into words all the objections I have for this unwarranted and unwanted attempt to force a high cost, unjustified, inadequate wastewater removal service, by a politically astute/active 'private' party (with a big profit incentive) down our throats.

Again, I object to the proposal under docket #20240032-SU and ask the Public Service Commission to deny the application for original certificate of authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Thank you

Michael Riley
220 Kettle Harbor Dr
PO Box 3554
Placida, FL 33946
mikenriley@comcast.net

Antonia Hover

From: Charlene Mackin <charlene@palmislandstays.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:27 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Commissioner.Passiodomo@psc.state.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay; Palm Island Estates
Subject: Sewer System for Knight Island, Don Pedro Island, aka Palm Island

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

My husband, Kevin Mackin and I, Charlene Mackin are very concerned regarding the possibility of adding a sewer system to our island currently consisting of individual septic systems for each homeowner. These concerns are:

1. Environmental: No studies have been done to prove the need for sewer
2. EU is NOT a contractor and has no experience with a massive project such as installing a sewer system for the entire island. We all know what can happen if you get a bad contractor and the many issues that could befall on a project as complex and environmentally difficult as this would be.
3. Cost: The hook-up costs are exceeding high and are vague on the actual the costs will eventually be on not just a month by month water bill, but the installation fees can go up and up.
4. Warranty: There are no guarantees that the treatment of sewer waste will be processed in an environmentally efficient manner as well as no guarantees on lifespan of the equipment, system maintenance, and on and on. Again, a contractor who has never tackled an operation as complex as this would inevitably be a disaster.
5. Access to homes: What about some property owners would have physical restraints on getting access to their homes, the car ferry would be delayed in unbelievable amounts of time to prohibit a timely journey on and off the island, and this could take years to complete.
6. Potential of sewer spill in the Intracoastal Waterway. The risk of central sewer leak is far greater than the risk of septic systems developing leaks.
7. Grandfathering of septic systems regardless of age. My husband and I just spent \$12,000 installing a new septic system for our home at 381 Bocilla Dr. This fact would not even be considered.

Most importantly, NOTHING has been shown to prove that a sewer system would be environmentally beneficial over the current septic systems we homeowners have in place. We BEG you to not even consider this project. If you investigate the EXACT step by step procedures of this very complex and time consuming project, you will find that there are many open ended questions and concerns that have not been addressed or outlined. It is vague, unprofessional and environmentally NOT SOUND.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kevin and Charlene Mackin
381 Bocilla Dr.
Placida, FL 33946

Antonia Hover

From: Janice Schroder <carpartjanice@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:02 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I am opposed to the sewer proposal by Environmental Utilities, LLC

My name is Janice Schroder.

I live on Little Gasparilla Island.
I have a septic system.
It works fine.

I do not want the proposed sewer system, which is substandard to the septic system I have and own. It will require more work and money to maintain than my current septic system.

It will force me to pay a high price to “hookup” and then an expensive monthly fee.

It will force me to purchase a generator, since the proposed system is electricity dependent. Without electricity, putrid contents could leach out into the open. Consider how this would attract rats and disease.

It will tear up my personal property, including my vegetation. Who will replace and return my property to its pre construction state?

On Little Gasparilla Island, we use electric golf carts to haul our groceries and supplies from the docks to our homes.

Electric motors are located underneath the carts.

Many carts will not survive the mud, trenches and puddles from the construction. This will add another layer of frustration and expense to islanders.

As a community, we are still rebuilding our beautiful island to the way it was before hurricane Ian hit us so hard.
The sewer construction will tear up our entire privately owned island and ruin our fragile roads. Who will rebuild the roads?

I believe, for many, it would be devastating, both emotionally and financially, to deal with the negative impact of this proposed construction.

This bad idea has been turned down by islanders once before.
How many times do we have to say “no”?

I request that the PSC **deny EU’s application for wastewater** service.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Janice Schroder
Email: janice@schroder.net
Sent from my iPad

Antonia Hover

From: Sarah Daniel <athomethomasville119@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 1:53 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket 20240032-SU

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Dear Commissioner Clerk,

I live at 450 Bocilla Dr. on Don Pedro Island. We have been living there for the last 7 years. and have been coming to the Island for the last 27 years.

As you know, the cost of the initial installation is over \$12,000, and will probably be more. There is a cost to the owners to connect the system to the house, and a generator to buy and install, and a deposit to begin the service. We simply cannot afford these costs.

In addition, there will be huge disruption to the roads, which will impact the wildlife, including gopher turtles, which are endangered. It will disrupt the intercoastal waterway.

We have seen no reliable data that doing this will have a positive impact on the environment, rather we believe it will be very disruptive and have a negative impact on the environment and local wildlife.

Environmental Utilities LLC has no prior experience, and has already been denied approval. The island residents have been against this from the beginning. Why is this being debated again?

Please stop this silliness. Enough already.

Sincerely,

Tim and Sarah Daniel
450 Bocilla Drive,
Placida (Don Pedro Island)
229-200-2199

Antonia Hover

From: Matthew DeFilippis <mdefilippis@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 1:39 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Request Wastewater Service

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you today as a concerned property and business owner at 7025 Placida Road, Englewood FL to express my support for a centralized sewer system. It is my understanding that when centralized sewer becomes available to Little Gasparilla, Knight Island and local areas a new line will be brought by our office location. I am requesting waste water service at that time.

My family lives in an amazing coastal community which enjoys the local waters of Lemon Bay, Lemon Bay Aquatic Preserve, Gasparilla Sound and near shore. We have a duty for stewardship of these coastal waters, our community and its economy. Septic systems in coastal areas are a detriment to our environment. High water tables, high flushing tides and poorly system flush human waste into the waters surrounding our area. The results are worsening coastal algal blooms, hazardous streets of Little Gasparilla after a heavy rain with high tide, reduced sales of commercial seafood, reduced recreational fishing, and inhibited ecotourism.

There has been opposition to centralized sewer when it was first proposed. I found all the supporting evidence and the information is clear. I read a study done in Lee County, the county directly south of us on the coast that shares Gasparilla Sound that proved septic contamination of local waters. I just typed into Google and Google scholar "Are septic systems in coastal areas bad for environment" and it listed some good peer reviewed Journals discussing the harmful effects of septic systems on costal watersheds.

<https://www.fau.edu/newsdesk/articles/septic-systems-southwest-florida.php#:~:text=Florida's%20coastal%20regions%20are%20particularly,water%20tables%20and%20porous%20soils>.

I urge you to consider the overwhelming evidence supporting centralized sewer system and take action to prioritize the health of our environment and community. I am requesting centralized sewer and ready to tie in.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Matthew DeFilippis

7025 Placida Rd.

2129 Michigan Ave

19076 Cochran Blvd.

Antonia Hover

From: Lisa S. Lawlor <lalawlor@browarddefender.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 12:39 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay; John Lawlor; Lisa Lawlor
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU Objection to & Request for denial of EU application
Attachments: Objection to EU application 2024.pdf

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April 24, 2024

Attn: Public Service Commission
Clerk of the Commission
clerk@psc.state.fl.us

Re: Docket #20240032-SU

To Whom It May Concern:

We are property owners on Knight Island, commonly called Palm Island. We are writing to ask that you **deny** EU's application to provide wastewater service to our island. This is the second time this application has been presented, no pertinent factors have changed since the first time it was denied, and it should be denied again. Furthermore, EU should be barred from making further repetitive and vexatious applications.

The island does not need a central sewer service, nor did we ask for one! The company repeating its previously made and denied application is a "for profit" company with zero experience in wastewater management, which forebodes an environmental disaster just waiting to happen. EU has zero concern for the environmental health of Florida's barrier islands or for the lives of the people who live there. Approving this application will force property owners to cover exorbitant connection fees, raise our utility bills, and infringe on our property rights. We will be required to give access to our properties for installation and maintenance; and we will be required to cede an easement over our properties for a service we don't want but will be required to use. Our properties, which are home to endangered / threatened species, such as Florida's gopher tortoises and bobcats, will be torn up for installation – without our approval or control.

EU is not qualified as a contractor to install this service, and there is no need for the service. Yet we, the residents and property owners of Palm Island, will bear the physical and financial fallout of any project failures, cost overruns, or fiscal instability of the applicant. The property we have owned for over 20 years has been owned by our family for close to 35 years; our septic tank has served us well over those years. We see no reason that has been presented for approving this application. In fact, we see no reason for the application having been made other than to enrich the unqualified applicant. We are outraged that we must respond to this application a second time! We urge the commission to deny the application and prohibit any further repetitive filings.

Sincerely,

John & Lisa Lawlor
190 N. Gulf Blvd.
954-646-5605
JLawlor@lwmllegal.com; lisaslawlor@gmail.com

cc: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us

April 24, 2024

Attn: Public Service Commission
Clerk of the Commission
clerk@psc.state.fl.us

Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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Sincerely,

John & Lisa Lawlor
190 N. Gulf Blvd.
954-646-5605
JLawlor@lwmllegal.com; lisaslawlor@gmail.com

cc: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us

Antonia Hover

From: Christopher Zenaty <czenaty@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 12:19 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I am a property owner on Palm Island.

Please accept this email expressing my serious concerns about this sewer project being proposed by a for profit corporation. There are many reasons that should be considered.

All residents are environmentally conscious about our island and want to keep it in the pristine condition it is today.

This proposal would damage the island forever.

I am not supporting this project.

Chris Zenaty
45 Palm Drive
Placida, FL

Antonia Hover

From: Mike Riley <mikenriley@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 12:08 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
Cc: 'Mike Riley'
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

My name is Victoria Millette and I am a property owner and live at 220 Kettle Harbor Drive, Don Pedro Island which is within the proposed service area of the Environmental Utilities, Inc. (EU) application for wastewater service. I am a resident of Florida and have lived at this address for over 15 years.

I OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL UNDER DOCKET #20240032-SU AND ASK THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO DENY THE APPLICATION FOR ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZTION FOR THIS PROPOSED CENTRAL SEWER SYSTEM.

My objections are many, but primarily focus on the need and cost of the proposed system to landowners. Water quality testing is vital to prove a NEED for conversion from septic's to a central sewer system and I am NOT AWARE of any substantial or adequate water testing performed by EU. Charlotte County has done extensive water quality testing and found no evidence to prove the islands are polluting the Intra-coastal waters or Lemon Bay. On the other hand, Charlotte County has found that their recycle water program for large commercial water users, like golf courses, does not meet current federal standards and is a primary if not the major contributor to the excessive nutrient levels (nitrogen, etc.) in Lemon Bay, yet they are in support of this application. If there is no need (water quality issues) then this application should be denied before it costs everyone too much money.

The cost of this proposed wastewater system is excessive with initial homeowner costs of nearly \$20,000 plus additional cost of electrical panel work for the pumps, continued sludge removal from the proposed small 60 gallon storage (septic style) tank on homeowner property, and taking of private property from each homeowner for an easement to place the storage tank. All of this plus a monthly wastewater utility cost of around \$250 per month. We (Island residents) just finished major rebuilding from hurricane Ian and this additional cost is unbelievable.

Now look at the FACT that only a couple of septic systems were damaged and had to be replaced from Hurricane Ian – no significant, or even minor wastewater spills or environmental damage. With this proposed system of individual homeowner pumps to move the wastewater, when there is a power outage we could see a horrible wastewater spill in OUR YARDS causing significant damage to property, wildlife, and native plants.

Please deny this application for original certificate of authorization for this central sewer system.

Victoria Millette
220 Kettle Harbor Dr
PO Box 3554

Placida, FL 33946-3554
303-475-0480

Antonia Hover

From: Debra Malone <dskmalone@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 11:41 AM
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: Docket #20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Commissioners,

We are property owners and residents on Palm Island. The purpose of this correspondence is to formally request that you Deny the wastewater services application submitted to you by Environmental Utilities LLC.

Our reasons for objecting to EU's proposal are numerous and include the following:

There is no reason wastewater services are needed on Palm Island. The costs will be prohibitive for most residents. The impact on landscape and existing habitat will be excessive.

This action will pave the way for unwanted additional building on the island. Traffic congestion will be unacceptable. Our property will be infringed upon and our rights will be taken with no compensation to us. The costs for both initial hook-up as well as monthly costs will be prohibitive and outrageous.

EU has no expertise or skills necessary to initiate or manage such an endeavor.

The risk of environmental catastrophe is enormous including possible sewer spillage into the canals and Gulf. As property owners we have no confidence that this system or this company will be able to manage this project in the best of circumstances, not to mention the hazards that will come during unforeseen storms.

We are therefore strongly urging you to DENY the application submitted by Environmental Utilities LLC for wastewater services.

Respectfully,
John & Debra Malone
430 N. Gulf Boulevard
Placida, FL
dskmalone@gmail.com

Antonia Hover

From: Jean Schultz <themumma2@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:28 AM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay
Cc: Don Schultz; mfriedman@deanmead.com
Subject: Fw: Objection: Docket #20240032-SU Application

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We are writing to respond to the recent legal notice from Environmental Utilities LLC (EU) regarding their application to the Public Service Commission for the installation of central sewer on the barrier islands of Little Gasparilla Island, Don Pedro Island and Knight Island.

We formally request that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.

We **strongly object** to this renewed initiative that was previously denied after a lengthy, detailed and expensive legal and public review in which many practical issues were exposed and successfully challenged by residents of the islands.

There was (and still is) an overwhelming lack of support for even considering allowing a private, for-profit, inexperienced entity to provide sewer services that the majority of home owners feel is both unnecessary and extremely costly compared to the current septic solutions.

There has been no evidence provided that supports a need for service in the proposed service area. Expert witnesses previously refuted the arguments that EU put forward at the last Administrative Hearing on this issue.

In fact, the considerable damage that these island sustained from the 2022 hurricane underscores the contention that having septic systems in place forestalled even more potential damage than if the previously proposed sewer system had replaced the effective septic systems. From an environmental, maintenance and emergency perspective there are many more concerns with a sewer system on islands accessed only by a ferry and boats than with the current septic systems.

The cost of implementing a sewer system is extremely high and a disservice to the many homeowners who are still recovering financially and structurally from the 2022 hurricane damage.

It was brought to our attention during the last go around that the projected average residential bills were both misleading and woefully understated. Also, the proposed "cost plus" model is a red flag and offers no protection to the consumers/homeowners.

This renewed initiative does not make sense on so many levels. It feels like a solution in search of a problem.

It would cause significant financial hardship and environmental concerns, not the least of which is sewage back-up during a prolonged weather related event when power sources are unavailable or generator capacity / fuel is exhausted.

Please deny this Docket #20240032-SU application.

Donald and Jean Schultz

80 Palm Dr
Placida, FL
33946

(Knight Island)

themumma2@aol.com
schultzdou50@gmail.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

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

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@verizon.net
941-737-8838



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Antonia Hover

From: Mary Ann Kelly <MAKelly@mintousa.com>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Objection Letter - Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket #202400-SU
Attachments: Objection_Enviro Utilities App_Ltl Gasparilla Island.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please, find attached our executed Objection Letter to Docket # 20240032-SU Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC.

Mary Ann Kelly & Luther O. Waller
8714 King Street, Dock #42
Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL 33946

April 15, 2024

Florida Public Service Commission
Commission Clerk
c/o Office of Commission Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Application for Original Wastewater in Charlotte County, FL by Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket # 20240032-SU

We are homeowners of a single-family residence for the past 24 years on Little Gasparilla Island located on King Street. **We are steadfastly opposed to Environmental Utilities, LLC providing any central sewer service to our island.**

The proposed design of the system does not carry away solid materials, as we will be required to maintain a "holding" tank for solids. This is deemed to not be an improvement over the current septic system our family has well maintained over the life of our property. Not an improvement environmentally or with regard to functionality. When I flush my toilet, all product should exit my property (and the island) and go to a central system processing affluent plant. Not hold on another tank on my property.

The initial cost estimates presented with the system are poorly defined, leaving us owners open to costs increases as the system developer incurs them. This is not operating in the sunshine, as the state of Florida is compelled to operate. The initial cost estimates, as presented, both upfront and for ongoing service charges - *are too much for my family to bear.* This is highlighted as we struggle to carry inflated costs for property insurances (flood, windstorm, and homeowners), increasing Charlotte County property taxes, and **our ever increasing private water supply utility service charges. This is also on top of the FACT that we are still rebuilding our property after destruction from Hurricane Ian!**

The experience and ability of Environmental Utilities, LLC is questionable. The barrier island community is a harsh and unhospitable environment for utilities. Power (FPL), phone/internet service are constantly going "down" on the island with major companies sending teams in for repair of services. Environmental Utilities is

not a major operator with solid infrastructure support behind them. Repairing a sewer line in a fragile coastal ecosystem is of paramount importance. No real mention of how this system is to be serviced/backstopped.

Please, no central service for Little Gasparilla Island.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Kelly Lou Waller

Mary Ann Kelly (wife) & Luther O. Waller (husband)

Mary.ann.kelly@verizon.net

4932 W. Melrose Ave. South

Tampa, FL 33629

(813) 957-0426

cc:

Clerk of Commission: clerk@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner LaRosa: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Clark: Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Passidomo: Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Graham: Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Fay: Commissioner.Fay@psc.stste.fl.us



Mary Ann Kelly
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Mary Ann Kelly & Luther O. Waller

8714 King Street, Dock #42

Little Gasparilla Island

Placida, FL 33946

April 15, 2024

Florida Public Service Commission

Commission Clerk

c/o Office of Commission Clerk

2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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Please, no central service for Little Gasparilla Island.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Kelly (wife) & Luther O. Waller (husband)

Mary.ann.kelly@verizon.net

4932 W. Melrose Ave. South

Tampa, FL 33629

(813) 957-0426

cc:

Clerk of Commission: clerk@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner LaRosa: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Clark: Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Passidomo: Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Graham: Commissioner.Graham@psc.state.fl.us

Commissioner Fay: Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us

Antonia Hover

From: Sharon_saad <sharon_saad@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 10:35 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Septic - Palm Island

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Stewart & Sharon Saad
29 N Gulf Blvd - Palm Island
561 N Gulf Blvd - PI
571 N Gulf Blvd - PI

We have personally and professionally known Jack, Diane, and all the Boyer children in our 20+ years on Palm Island, we support treated wastewater and commend their continued efforts to improve the island like they always have.

Environmental Considerations

In our opinion, there is nothing more disgustingly irresponsible than to continually flush millions of gallons of human sewer waste into poorly maintained, uncertified, and decades old septic drain fields. Simply put, there is nothing more environmentally destructive island residents, renters, and owners can do to the water quality of our bays, canals, and subsoils of our lots and beaches.

Increasing Volumes

Time is of the essence for island sewer, the number of full-time residents and visitors to our island(s) has greatly increased over the last 5+ years, probably doubled; meaning the human waste volumes have doubled over historic levels. The environmental impacts of the dramatic increase in sewer volumes should be addressed, the impacts of raw sewer being dumped into islands groundwater system should not be ignored any longer.

Sent from my iPhone

Antonia Hover

From: Jan Behnke <sodacreek@qwestoffice.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 1:02 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: objection to Environmental Utilities LLC sewage project. Palm Island
Attachments: objection to Environmental Utilities LLC sewage project. Palm Island.docx

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PETER STIMMEL

P.O. Box 961

291 Kettle Harbor Drive/Don Pedro Island

Placida, FL 33946

peteyrotten@gmail.com

(970) 819-8972

April 16, 2024

RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Commissioner Fay

Commissioner.fay@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