Nickalus Holmes

From: Nickalus Holmes on behalf of Records Clerk

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 4:42 PM

To: 'Lindsay Yates'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20240032

Good Afternoon Ms. Yates and Mr. Goranson

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240032, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Thank you

Nick Holmes Commission Deputy Clerk II Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 850-413-6770

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From: Lindsay Yates < lyates@springsips.com> Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 4:31 PM

To: Records Clerk < CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark < Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith < Commissioner.Passidomo.Smith@psc.state.fl.us>;

Graham < Commissioner. Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>

Subject: Docket No. 20240032

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You still have the opportunity to do the right thing and DENY the application of Environmental Utilities. It was with extreme disappointment and frustration that we read the staff's recommendation in this matter.

We do not understand the staff's reasoning in reference to the question of requests for service when the overwhelming majority of the affected residents are adamantly opposed to Mr. Boyer's plan and have tried to make their voices heard through correspondence and hearing testimony. If the EU application had contained just ONE request for service, would that have been enough to fulfill the requirement of "request for service?" In fact, included in the application - contrary to Mr. Boyer's testimony - were just 9 letters from owners of 29 lots. That is 9 individuals and 29 lots out of 1,248 potential ERCs – approximately 2 percent of the affected lots.

The residents of these fragile barrier islands are a very environmentally-educated population with great respect for the human impacts on the delicate ecosystems, wildlife, vegetation and waterways. We are a community of conservationists and have asked time and time again for proof of adverse impacts caused by our well-functioning septic systems. To our knowledge, still no testing has been done. Mr. Boyer professes to want to protect the environment and "save the islands" for his grandchildren and future generations. Don't buy that. We all want to "save" the islands. Mr. Boyer is an

opportunist who simply wants to make money and is going to make it on the backs of his neighbors. He was handed the golden ticket by the Charlotte County Commissioners with no process of vetting or attempt to find the most qualified company for a project of this scope. Amazingly, Mr. Boyer – and no one else, no other company - just sort of wandered in and said, "Hey, guys, let me take those darn islands off your hands." Charlotte County has abdicated its responsibility to the citizens of these islands throughout this entire process.

All that is left to say after four years of this hanging over our heads is that the following issues need to be taken into consideration in making your final decision: the proposed system is a bad system – one no longer used by Charlotte County if possible; the costs of construction are way UNDERestimated; the costs of service are way UNDERestimated; the possibility of lines breaking and spillage in the IntraCoastal Waterway are way UNDERestimated; the technical ability of EU to manage this project and its ability to serve the requested territory was way OVERestimated.

Is it in the public interest for EU to be granted the wastewater certificate? Not at all until such time that water quality testing is conducted and a better plan presented. Also not until such time as EU and Knight Island Utilities become more transparent as to their ultimate goal concerning providing service to Palm Island Resort. Why is the system being overdesigned with a 10-inch line at the Resort gate? Are island residents being duped into paying for the overdesign?

Environmental Utilities' application two years ago was denied because it was not proven that there was a need for service in the proposed service area. Contrary to staff's conclusion, we don't think that that need has been proven. We also would like to have some consideration given to the devastating effects on people's lives – people who have lived on these islands for many years – who will not be able to afford to stay. Many are just hanging on after the devastating effects of last year's hurricanes and the horrific costs associated with Mr. Boyer's project will push them over the edge and out of their homes.

What works on the mainland does not always work on the fragile barrier islands and all projects must be looked at individually. This is just such a case. We implore you to use your discretion – and good sense – in denying this application. Thank you for your time throughout this entire process and your consideration.

Lindsay Yates and Jon Goranson

2 Pointe Way, Don Pedro Island