

Brian Schultz

From: Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 7:15 AM
To: 'Marlene Torres'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket # 20240032 Request to Deny EU application

Good morning,

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.

Sincerely,

Brian Schultz

Commission Deputy Clerk II
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.413.6770

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From: Marlene Torres <mtacctorres@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2025 10:54 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; commissionoer.passidomo@psc.state.fl.us; commissioner.graham@psc.state.fl
Subject: Docket # 20240032 Request to Deny EU application

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Dear Commissioners,

My name is Marlene Torres, I am an owner/resident of Little Gasparilla Island (LGI) residing at 9400 Little Gasparilla Island, Unit I2, within the Hideaway Bay Beach Club (HBBC) condominiums. I am writing to formally request the denial of Environmental Utilities' (EU) application for a certificate to install sewer systems on our island.

Lack of Proper Notification and Due Process

The EU has proposed relocating the wastewater transmission line from Don Pedro State Park to HBBC property. Despite being excluded from the scope of this application on May 13, 2024 (Doc #03001-2024) by EU's attorney, this significant change directly impacts all HBBC owners. As owners we were not notified of this substantial amendment, violating the Public Service Commission's (PSC) requirement for proper notification to all affected parties. This oversight has denied HBBC owners the due process necessary to contest this change.

The HBBC attorney, Nick Porter, addressed this issue in his letter dated February 28, 2025 (Doc #01210-2025). It is disappointing that the PSC staff overlooked this notification failure in their recommendation. Consequently, 132 families are denied due process because of the EU's unnotified change.

Potential Impact on HBBC Community

If the EU proceeds with the model indicated in the 2017 Charlotte County Sewer Master Plan, the construction of a pump house on our septic plant drain field could or will necessitate the decommissioning of our existing system. This would effectively force HBBC to connect to the EU sewer system, despite our exclusion from the project's scope. Such construction would render our community uninhabitable during the process, imposing additional living expenses on residents. Moreover, no estimates have been provided for hookup costs, leaving us without information regarding the potential financial burden we may incur.

Conclusion

In summary, 132 families who are directly affected have not been notified, currently utilize a DEP-permitted septic system, and are unaware of the potential financial implications if this transmission line is brought to our property. I urge you to deny this application to protect the rights and well-being of the HBBC community.

Sincerely,

Marlene Torres