

Nickalus Holmes

From: Nickalus Holmes on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 12:37 PM
To: 'Herda, Ashley Ann'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Opposition to EU proposal of sewer utility

Good Afternoon Ms. Herda

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: Herda, Ashley Ann <a.herda@ku.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Opposition to EU proposal of sewer utility

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Commissioners,
My name is Ashley Herda. My husband and I own a condo unit in Hideaway Bay Beach Condos (HBBC) on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI), and we strongly oppose the proposal set forth by Environmental Utilities (EU) to construct a sewer utility link to the mainland system of Charlotty County. **Please DENY this proposal from moving forward!**

EU has modified their original plan and the pipeline is now proposed to run through Hideaway Bay property (private property). This encroachment will severely impact access to our barge landing, a site that is heavily used to transport large items (construction materials, home appliances and furnishings, and golf carts) too and from our property. The proposal will also limit the ability our private roads to be used, as it states the pipeline cannot be driven over. Further, the proposed site already contains a DEP permitted septic plant, that has served our HBBC property for decades without issue. There is no reasonable justification (from their proposal) to "tap" into our existing system unless we are going to be compensated for its use, nor for us to be required to use their proposed pipeline.

Why would anyone within reasonable sense approve this to move forward? EU's proposal is a self-serving business entity that has not considered the individual expenses to property owners, the environmental impact to the island and surrounding ecosystem, nor the livelihood of the residents that will lose parts of their property right of way as it would then be considered a "utility easement". The remaining properties (that were not destroyed from recent natural disasters) on LGI have maintained self-sufficient septic systems within the confines of each individual property for decades, across

LGI. EU's proposal to have property owners foot the bill to conjoin with the proposed system lines is not justifiable except for EU's personal gain. Further, we often lose power on the island. What are the environmental consequences of sewer back-up when the pipeline cannot "do its job"? This would introduce environmental burdens and health risks associated with raw sewage that I'm confident EU will claim is the responsibility of the property owner to clean up. It is not acceptable.

I strongly object to this moving forward in discussion. **Please reject the proposal**, for the sake of the current and future residents, for the maintenance of what is great about LGI and HBBC (personal and private pristine surroundings), and the ongoing financial hardships that have overcome our island and property. We have our own system, that works for HBBC. We do not need another expense, burden, or literal roadblock from restoration.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Herda

HBBC, Unit C5
9400 Little Gasparilla Is.