#### FILED 1/20/2021 DOCUMENT NO. 01438-2021 FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC

DOCKET NO. 20200226-WS

#### ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES, LLC.'S RESPONSE TO MOTION TO DISMISS

Environmental Utilities, LLC. ("EU"), by and through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to Rule 28-106.204(1), Florida Administrative Code, files this response to the Motion to Dismiss filed by Guy L. Hurst [Document #01412-2021], and states:

The threshold issue to be addressed is whether this Motion is ripe for determination or otherwise Moot. The Notices were sent prior to the Commission denying EU's request for bifurcation. Thus, EU in the future will be refiling its Application with the rates and charges, which will require re-noticing. Thus, the original noticing is irrelevant.

1. Movant's first complaint is the assertion is that the Notices were mailed to addresses on Little Gasparilla Island, and that no residents receive mail on LGI. That is inaccurate. The notices were mailed to properety owners at the mailing addresses as reflected on the records of the Charlotte County Property Appraiser (presumably the same address that the real estate tax bills are sent. See Attachment 1 which is one of the mailed envelopes. The envelope clearly has the name of EU as the return address. In fact many of the notices were mailed to out of state addresses, and a number were mailed out of country.

2. Movant's next complaint is the assertion that the Notices were sent as "junk mail". Because of the number of notices to be mailed (over 1,300), EU had them sent by a third-party mailing company who sent them as bulk mail. See Attachment 2. There is no prohibition against sending notices in this manner.

3. Movant's further complaints interspersed within his Motion are the assertion that the form of the Notice is inadequate. The notice was prepared in accordance with the requirements of Rule 25-30.030, F.A.C. and was approved by Staff as required by Rule 25-30.030(4), F.A.C. Further, EU has been very transparent in this application. Mr. Boyer met with representatives of the Little Gasparilla Island Property Owner's Association (see its website referencing such meetings: https://lgpoa.org/ ), and the Palm Island Estates Association (see its website referencing such meetings: https://www.palmislandestates.org/sewer--utilities-report.html). Mr. Boyer also sought to meet with the Cape Haze Property Owner's Association which denied such request.

4. Movant next complains about lack of notice of the Motion to Bifurcate filed by Environmental Utilities, LLC. However, Movant has pointed to no requirement that such notice be provided, nor has such notice been required or provided in any prior case in which bifurcation has been considered by the Commission.

5. Next Movant makes statements regarding the need for central wastewater service on the island, which is the ultimate determination to be made by this Commission and has no bearing on Movant's Motion. Further, such statements are contrary to the determination made by Charlotte County as set forth in its Sewer Master Plan.

WHEREFORE, Environmental Utilities, LLC., requests that this Commission enter an Order denying the Motion to Dismiss [Documents #01412-2021].

Respectfully submitted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021, by:

Dean Mead

420 S. Orange Ave., Suite 700 Orlando, FL 32801 Telephone: (407) 310-2077 Fax: (407) 423-1831 mfriedman@deanmead.com

<u>/s/Martin S. Friedman</u> MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by

E-mail to the following parties this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021:

Brad Kelsky, Esquire 1250 S. Pine Island Road, Suite 250 Plantation, FL 33324 bradkelsky@kelskylaw.com

Guy L. Hurst 7153 Regina Dr. Englewood, FL 34224 retiretoecuador@gmail.com Jennifer Crawford, Esquire Stephanie-Jo Osborn, Esquire Office of General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 <u>sosborn@psc.state.fl.us</u> jcrawfor@psc.state.fl.us

<u>/s/ Martin S. Friedman</u> Martin S. Friedman **ATTACHMENT 1** 

Environmental Utilities, LLC PO Box 7 Placida, FL 33946

PRST STD **US POSTAGE PAID** MANASOTA FL PERMIT #765

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ATTACHMENT 2

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Bulk Mailer Std 5.12.0, BCC Software, LLC, (206) 357-2900 -acsimile by

## Part A—Automation Letters

#### Letters 3.5 oz. (0.2188 lbs.) or less

	Entry	Price Category	Price	No. of Pieces	Subtotal Postage	Discount Total*	Fee Total	Total Postage
A1	None	5-Digit	\$0.259	357	92.463			92.4630
A2	None	AADC	0.284	157	44.588			44.5880
A3	None	Mixed AADC	0.299	464	138.736			138.7360
A4	DNDC	5-Digit	0.239					
A5	DNDC	AADC	0.264					
A6	DNDC	Mixed AADC	0.279					
A7	DSCF	5-Digit	0.233					
A8	DSCF	AADC	0.258	262	67.596			67.5960

\* May contain both Full Service Intelligent Mail and other discount-see Instructions page for additional information.

A9 Part A Total (add lines A1-A8)								
Full Service Intelligent Mail Option								
A10	DISPLAY ONLY	Letters-Number of Pieces that Comply	x \$ 0.003 =					