

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 2:19 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20200226  
**Attachments:** Re Florida Atlantic University Septic Sys Research; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU

Please place the attached in Docket No. 20200226.

Thank you!

## Lisa Smith

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**From:** Robert Jensen <rjensen2525@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 12:22 PM  
**To:** Environmental Utility; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; robinmadden@islanderproperties.com  
**Subject:** Re: Florida Atlantic University Septic Sys Research

Received, thank you.

Jack:

Thank you for this generalized description of ground water pollution. Unfortunately, it does not contain specific information for any sources of ground water pollution, run-off pollution from commercial and industrial sights, and pollution from the release of untreated sewage into the estuaries from overloaded sewage treatment plants during heavy rains or tropical storms. Even if sewers were installed everywhere in Charlotte County, ground water nutrients leaching into the estuaries is a complex problem that cannot be solved or measurably mitigated by the installation of sewers on PI and DPI. For instance, Cape Coral in Lee County with 300 mile of canals is entirely sewerred, and they have experienced the worst algae blooms in SWF. They have discovered that run-off from roads and parking lots into the drainage systems as well as fertilizers from homes and golf courses is the leading cause of pollution in the estuaries. Living directly on the back bay of Ft. Myers Beach for 25 years, I have personally observed and investigated raw sewage discharges during severe storms directly into the estuary from a Lee County sewage treatment plant several miles from our house. These discharges of raw sewage are large and Gross with disgustingly visible debris, and are sometimes reported to the news media.

In closing, your problem is the installation of sewers on LGI where substandard lots and many years of unpermitted buildings combined with poor drainage resulting in large areas of standing water have created an unhealthy mixing of ground water and pollutants from substandard septic systems. These conditions do not exist on PI or DPI. I believe that most citizens would support your installation of sewers on LGI to help mitigate the ever evolving health hazard created by LGI residents during the past fifty years.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Robert Jensen

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022, 1:37 PM Environmental Utility <eu777offices@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Interested Party/ Island Resident:

Attached is the most recent study on how Septic Systems affect our pristine waters. This article was posted January 7, 2022 in South Central Florida Life online.

You can access the report with this link

<https://www.southcentralfloridalife.com/stories/septic-tanks-feeding-algal-blooms,26750>

or for those who do not like to click links, the whole article is attached in pdf format.

Please give it a read.

Thank you for your time,

## **Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Kevin Reed <kevinreed1308@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 12:54 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner La Rosa  
**Cc:** Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

I am a property owner on Palm Island 360 S Gulf Blvd Unit A under my company name K and L Property Management, LLC

I would like to that PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.

The cost for the hook up is very uncertain along with the average residential bill. This is huge financial obligation, which is not necessary to me as a homeowner with a very functioning and maintained septic system. and the cost to close my current septic tank.

The expense of the additional electric panel, electric bill associated with the pump needed and potential a generator in the event of power outages. Is also very uncertain.

Our island serviced by the ferry will have huge traffic disruptions, damaging our roads, yards, landscaping.

Please DENY this application.

Thank you,

**Kevin Reed**

Affordable Tire, LLC  
Celebrating 30 years 1987-2020  
4 Locations

K and L Property Management, LLC  
Commercial Leasing: Office, Warehouse, and Manufacturing

K and L Real Estate, LLC  
Real-estate Development

856-297-3011 cell/text  
856-825-5748 office  
1-888-295-9869 fax

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Steve Egan <steveimprint1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 1:03 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Commissioner.clark@psc.stat.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners,

My name is Steve Egan, with a vacation property at 8270 Little Gasparilla Island, Placida. I am in opposition to the proposed central sewer system that is being forced upon us by a private entity (Jack Bower's company, EU).

Being forced to hook up to this service, at a cost totally absorbed by residents, would put a financial hardship on many island residents, including my family. Our 900 square foot cabin is a weekend place, used about once a month. We barely were able to afford being forced to hook up to Mr. Boyer's water utility, and that was \$5000. Not to mention having to pay to hook up from the meter to the residence.

I don't feel there is a need for service due to the inconsistent use of the property, and the additional expenses beyond the initial hookup charge that is being forced upon us by a *for-profit* company. There have also been questions as to Mr. Boyer's technical expertise and financial wherewithal.

I would also encourage any commissioner that has not visited Little Gasparilla Island to please come see it for yourselves. You might gain an appreciation of the island for what it is not, instead of what it is. Most of us don't own big fancy places on the water. We are regular people that got on the island years ago before the market went crazy. We just can't afford it what Mr. Boyer is trying to do.

**In conclusion, I object to EU's Application for Original Certificate of Authorization and would formally ask that the PSC deny it.**

Respectfully,

Steve Egan  
steveimprint1@aol.com  
Imprintables International, LLC  
1306 Orangewalk Dr.  
Brandon, FL 33511  
813-453-LOGO  
iPrintTampa.com

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** joe.noto@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 1:28 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Records Clerk  
**Cc:** joe.noto@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Joe Noto and I live at 181 N. Gulf Blvd. #10, Placida, Florida 33946 on Palm Island. Please read my numerous concerns below and so that you understand why **I strongly oppose the central sewer system as proposed by Environmental Utilities.**

1. I do not see the need for this service at this time.
  - a. No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for a central sewer system.
  - b. This project could very easily have a negative impact on, and interfere with the habitat of endangered species such as the gopher tortoise.
  - c. The risk of a central sewer leak into the intercoastal waterway seems greater than the risk of one or more septic systems developing leaks.
2. I am concerned about the ability of Environmental Utilities to financially handle this project, and adequately maintain such a system.
  - a. I have not been provided any information about the financial history, stability or viability of Environmental Utilities and their management team.
3. I am also concerned as to whether Environmental Utilities has the technical expertise and capability to handle such a project.
  - a. EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer.
  - b. There is no performance bond required, and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.
  - c. It is my understanding that Environmental Utilities has not provided adequate information on how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions.
  - d. What experience do they have with other wastewater systems?
4. I am concerned about the hook up and monthly service costs

- a. Initially hookup was estimated to be \$20,000 and subsequently it was reduced to approximately \$13,000. This makes me wonder if that lower number is valid or was provided only to quell complaints they were hearing.
  - b. It is my understanding that the average monthly bill is estimated to be somewhere around \$178. This is twice the cost of monthly sewer AND water in Rotunda.
  - c. I am also concerned about the cost I will have to incur to install a separate electrical panel.
  - d. In the case of a power outage which we experience frequently, I'm concerned the system's grinder pump will not be able to function for long. I would need a generator to ensure there was no sewage back up during the power outage.
  - e. I am concerned about the life of the equipment installed by Environmental Utilities and their ability to maintain it. This could result in future upcharges to homeowners because of the needed repair costs
5. Also, it is my understanding that most utility easements are placed in the road right-of-way. EU has claimed ownership of a utility easement that will go from the sewer equipment, located near the house to the connection in the road without compensating me. It's my property and if they want an easement they should pay for it.

So, the central sewer system proposed by Environmental Utilities will have a significant impact on me, a homeowner in the proposed service area. As such, **I am formally requesting that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.**

Sincerely,

Joe Noto

[joe.noto@comcast.net](mailto:joe.noto@comcast.net)

574-904-7224