

Antonia Hover

From: Hannah Barker
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 2:33 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket Correspondence
Attachments: RE DOCKET #20200226-SU; RE Reference Docket 20200226-SU; RE Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, RE. Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE RE. Docket #20200226-SU Palm Island- Don Pedro Sewer Project; RE My support for central sewer and why.; RE Subject Docket# 20200226-SU; RE LGI SEWER APPLICAITON_Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached emails in Docket No. 20200226.

Hannah E. Branum
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6004

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:49 PM
To: 'sales@kroslakent.com'
Subject: RE: DOCKET #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. and Ms. Kroslak,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: sales@kroslakent.com <sales@kroslakent.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2022 11:50 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Cc: pie@palmislandestates.org
Subject: DOCKET #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners:

WE ARE FORMALLY REQUESTING THAT THE PSC DENY EU'S APPLICATION FOR WASTEWATER SERVICE

Our names are Joseph and Debby Kroslak. As homeowners on Little Gasparilla Island, located at 9424 Rum Runner Rd, Lot #18, we would like to voice our **OBJECTION** for a certificate being granted to Environmental Utilities, LLC.

We are appealing to you with due respect because we feel that it is your responsibility as public servants to protect the interest of the taxpayers and homeowners, and not that of private enterprise.

There are many unanswered concerns. To name a few:

1. It's unacceptable to turn this project over to an LLC that has ZERO experience in installing and operating a sewer system of this magnitude. We believe Charlotte County should be the one in charge of this.
2. Undefined cost both for installation and monthly dues, as well as maintenance
3. There is NO NEED for this type of sewer system. Existing septic systems that people have are functional. If they weren't, the county would not be issuing new permits for new systems.
4. Potential environmental impact because of failed sewer system components.
5. Logistics to the island – we have no bridges – everything comes across by boat.
6. Environmental Utilities, LLC has not shown that they are financially capable to finance this project and they offer no financing to the homeowners.
7. This will be a significant financial burden to the homeowners.
8. Too much uncertainty about this whole project.

We thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Joseph and Debby Krosiak

sales@krosiakent.com

(813)677-3124 (P)

(813)671-0772 (F)

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:49 PM
To: 'Jeannie S. James'
Subject: RE: Reference Docket 20200226-SU

Dear Ms. James,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Jeannie S. James <jsjames@marlynsteel.com>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 8:59 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Reference Docket 20200226-SU

Florida Public Service Commission,

Please deny Environmental Utilities, LLC their application for wastewater service. We are opposed to Environmental Utilities, LLC obtaining the certification to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County for the following reasons. They have zero experience in providing such a service. They are unable to give the consumer any cost figures to advise the consumer what they will be responsible for. They are proposing a sewer system that would require every homeowner to have a generator. Environmental Utilities, LLC has not shown that they are financially capable to finance the startup of such a service.

Environmental Utilities, LLC should be required to provide a bond to cover all cost to replace any system they install to protect the consumer should the system fail. Or the county should take responsibility to protect the consumer should the County or Public Service Commission insist on using a company that has no experience in wastewater service of this magnitude.

We want a company that has experience. We do not want to have to pay for any sewer system more than once.

Thank you for listening to our concerns. We will expect you to be very careful choosing the proper company to do such a project.

Sincerely,
Jeannie James
Property Owner
On Knight Island, Don Pedro Island.

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:49 PM
To: 'Lynne Petersen'
Subject: RE: Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Peterson,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

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Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Lynne Petersen <lynne@iaaonline.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 6:37 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commission members,

I am a resident of Don Pedro Island residing at 43 Bayshore Circle. I have been following the application for certificate referenced above for the last year. I am requesting that you deny Environmental Utility's (EU) application to provide wastewater based on the following information:

In filings provided by EU, Jack Boyer sites his technical expertise comes from his experience as owner and operator of Little Gasparilla Water Utilities. Being a fairly new resident to the island and not being familiar with this utility since we live on Don Pedro Island, I looked into LGWU. In 2014, the utility requested and was granted a rate increase to replace the Utility's aging reverse osmosis water treatment plant (WTP) and begin purchasing bulk water from Charlotte County Utilities (CCU); (2) an extension of the Utility's service lines to the north end of the island to provide water service to 67

additional lots; (3) construction of a new building on the site of the retired reverse osmosis treatment plant, to serve as a workshop, storage facility, and office; and (4) a meter replacement program to replace the Utility's aging water meters with remote-read meters. I was astonished to find the issues that have occurred when this utility did the construction project. **The only project that could be looked at for his expertise is not what I would consider a success. The project had significant cost overruns and significant delays. Jack Boyer, the owner, was cited for not having the proper contractor permits, illegal hookup to home by not having a plumbing license, failure to issue boil notices, and delinquent property taxes when applying for additional rate increases. Please see attachment for documentation. The amount of debt that LGWU has incurred since 2013 also shows the failure of the operator to have the fiscal responsibility needed to operate a utility.** From 2013 to 2020 the long term debt on LGWU has increased by 259% . Loans from his related companies are secured at exceptionally high interest rates that increased from 2019 to 2020 to 10%. Other loans he has secured have interest rates as high as 11.99%. Overleveraging LGWU to get approved rate increases is something of a norm for the operator.

EU's does not have the financial ability to undergo such a large construction project the utility which. In response to the Commission's request, EU provided its balance sheet and income statement as of October 19, 2021. These financial statements show that EU does not have any current revenue stream. In addition, the Company's liabilities exceed its assets by 14 times, as of October 19, 2021. **EU's ability to get a loan secured for this project would rely on working capital, which they do not have, or the ability to get a bank loan based on the future revenue projections which falls short by over \$4 million dollars.**

I was in attendance when Jack Boyer presented information to the Palm Island Estates meeting. He said he believed the hook up cost to be around \$20K but he would look into getting federal grants to lower the hook up fees. When questioned further he could not give any further information on grants available. He frankly told the group the more we objected the more we would have to pay in legal fees. EU's estimated \$13K hookup fees are simply estimates. EU has not demonstrated actual costs to homeowners. What has been presented is an estimated cost from Giffels-Webster based on other projects they have done. Given the unique nature of this barrier island, an extensive engineering study should have been submitted with specific recommendations on which system would work the best and what is the best system to transport the wastewater back to the mainland and what the actual cost would be to each homeowner, and this has not occurred. I have no idea how you as a commission could determine if the proposed rates are fair and equitable. The information EU has provided does not allow for any pay overtime plan and this will be a hardship for many when you also considered the additional costs the homeowners will be responsible for such as electrical hook up, additional electrical panel if needed and costs associated with fences, hardscapes or landscape that will need to be removed for easements.

In looking through the docket I could not find where EU has done any testing to substantiate a need for service in this area. It appears he refers to the Charlotte County Master Plan to substantiate a need for service. I question what is the standard for need for service that is applied in this case. From my understanding, the role of the Florida Public Service Commission is to ensure that consumers receive essential services in a safe, affordable and reliable manner. Homeowners on this island are receiving wastewater services through the installation of septic systems which have not been found to be harming the environment. If EU were granted a certificate of service, it would not be affordable, nor based on his demonstrated past experience, would it be reliable.

Based on the information provided above, I respectfully request you deny Environmental Utilities request for application to provide waste water service. Thank you for your time and your service on the Commission.

Sincerely,

Lynne Petersen

This email was sent on behalf of the Indiana Apartment Association. It is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This communication, including any attachments or hyperlinks within it, may contain information that is confidential, proprietary, privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you are not the named addressee and intended recipient of this email, you are not authorized to read, use, disclose, distribute, retain, copy, print, disseminate or relay this email in any way. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone or email and delete this email.

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:48 PM
To: 'Mark Weinstein'
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. and Ms. Weinstein,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Mark Weinstein <weinsteinx6@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 1:08 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

To the clerk and commissioners:

My name is Mark Weinstein. My wife Laurie and I are owners on Don Pedro Island, There is a sewer system being proposed for our area. We are not opposed to a sewer system as environmentally it makes sense. We are opposed to a system being implemented by EU. The project as proposed by them has many concerns to us on the island as you are aware not to mention there is no prior track record of this company to implement and maintain this system. The financial stability of this company to withstand any unforeseen expenses is questionable and would potentially impact us all greatly. We respectfully ask that you deny EU's request for wastewater service on the island.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Mark and Laurie Weinstein
301 South Gulf Blvd.

weinstein6@gmail.com

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:47 PM
To: 'jbluscombe@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. and Ms. Luscombe,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: jbluscombe@gmail.com <jbluscombe@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Palm Island Estates <pie@palmislandestates.org>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners

My name is Jim Luscombe and I own and reside full time at 420 Bocilla Drive on Don Pedro Island with Kris **Doubles**. Our family home was built in the late 70's and we have been full time residents for 8 years We live within the service district for the central sewer system being proposed by Environmental Utilities (EU). I request that you DENY EU's Application for Original Certificate or Authorization for the following reasons.

1: Need: The applicant is citing a study that indicates we are experiencing high nitrogen levels. This problem is typically a result of fertilizer utilization and over the past few years, this has been the center of many studies. Manicured lawns and golf courses and the main problem in this regard. Neither of which we have on Palm Island. For over a decade, our home owners association have been testing the waters surrounding our island . Hundreds of tests later, we have never been able to find any contaminated waters. E coli counts obtained over the past decade would indicate we do not have a problem. Spending 10's of millions of dollars to correct our water quality with a sewer system seems almost ridiculous. Charlotte county, Lee county and Sarasota county have all been in the news over the past year (as recently as last week) BECAUSE OF SEWAGE SYSTEM FAILURES. Pumps fail, lift stations fail. Various reports ranging from 10,000 gallons to will over 100,000 gallons of raw sewage going into our waterways because of the same system being proposed. If the County truly believed the logic of the applicants need assessment, the county would not be granting new permits on our islands for septic systems. This is not the case.

*The only way you can justify moving ahead with this project based on **NEED** is for financial gain. Period.*

2: Technical Expertise: I know and respect the applicant, HOWEVER, he has no experience in waste water management and has never completed a project of this magnitude. I spoke with him last week and he made it clear that he feels strongly that the best option for all involved is for the COUNTY to take it over. Another island resident had a meeting with the applicant and at that meeting the applicant advised that he had no intention of actually doing the project. *The only way you can justify moving ahead with this project based on **Technical Expertise** is for financial gain. Period.*

3: Fair and Equitable Rates & Charges: We , the residents have yet to be informed of the total actual costs. Hook up fees have been quoted from 10K to 20K. Unfortunately, this is just the tip of the iceberg. Our existing septic's have to be decommissioned. Many homes will require an electric upgrade to power the pumps: No estimate
Our lots will be torn up from the street to the house to lay the line and tankage. Cost of replacing landscaping: No estimate.
What will each resident be paid for the easement needed for them to do this: No estimate.
The best one is the ongoing cost. We will now have to pay \$150 to \$200 monthly to have our waste transported to the mainland where Charlotte county will treat it. The applicant has stated that he will apply for the maximum increase allowed each year. *The only way you can justify moving ahead with this project based on **Fair an Equitable Rates & Charges** is for financial gain. Period.*

Another area of HUGE CONCERN , is the damage to our fragile environment. We are home to a challenged gopher tortoise population. Has a study been done to determine the risk to this protected population?

After all is said and done under the proposed program, our waste will be transported to Rotonda where it is treated. The gray water containing high levels of nutrients and Nitrogen will then be diverted to "Fertilizer Water" used by local golf courses, to ultimately end up in the water table and back into our rivers and coastal waters. This solves nothing.

Sarasota have recently indicated that they should STOP hooking up septic to sewers UNTIL that have advanced waste water treatment systems in place. Advanced systems are designed to eliminate the nutrient waters that get recycled. This is a much more logical place for the County to start. Make Rotonda and advanced waste water treatment plant.

This entire process seems absolutely ridiculous! As a non engineer but a concerned resident, this fees like a total sham and does not at any level pass the smell test. To use a simple analogy. I go to the hospital with a

sore throat. After No testing or analysis, I am told I need open heart surgery. The chiropractor will be performing the surgery and we have no idea of what this will cost you. Oh , and by the way, we will not be responsible for any collateral damage done. As silly as this sounds, its exactly what we are facing.

Please make the right decision that is not based on a high profit permit to one individual, but on the best long term solution to our island that meets our needs now and in the future, has minimum environmental impact and is affordable to all.

Regards

Jim Luscombe and Kris Doubles



Jim Luscombe

Email: Jim@palmislandstays.com

Cell: 727-515-0274

www.palmislandstays.com

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:47 PM
To: 'Dennis Ryan'
Subject: RE: RE. Docket #20200226-SU Palm Island- Don Pedro Sewer Project

Dear Mr. Ryan,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Dennis Ryan <Dennis.Ryan@RingPower.Com>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 8:22 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: RE. Docket #20200226-SU Palm Island- Don Pedro Sewer Project

To Whom it May Concern

I am firmly opposed to the sewer project on the island and ask **the PSC to deny** EU's application for wastewater service.

We built a new vacation home on the island in 2017 and had a new, state of the art, septic tank and drain field installed at a cost of over \$12,000 that met all of Charlotte County's design, environmental safety and permitting requirements.

At no time have we requested an island-wide sanitary system.

EU's cost per homeowner estimate is very vague and we certainly don't want to pay \$20-25,000 to hook up to a convolutedly designed, private system and have the associated headaches and expenses of maintaining all the equipment described by EU.

I would also like to point out the unknown cost of removing our newer septic tank. I am very skeptical of any private company handling our wastewater with complicated individual tanks, pumps and pipes moved over environmentally sensitive lands and waters. If this design and/or company failed, the County would have to step in and not only mitigate the damages but install a proven gravity system with concrete pipes and lift stations at an enormous cost to all the tax payers. The thought of our frequent electrical power disruptions and the potential backups is horrifying. If Charlotte County decided there was an urgent need for a system in such a low density area, they would build a proven gravity sewer system that most of the county has in place. Any septic tanks that are failing due to age or design should be replaced at the homeowners expense. I am sure the county has regular inspections and the enforcement policies in place to address such cases.

Thank you for my input and consideration.

Dennis Ryan
410 Bocilla Rd- Island address.
Home address- 4103 W Vasconia St, Tampa, Fl, 33629
Email- dennis.ryan@ringpower.com

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:46 PM
To: 'eu777offices@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: My support for central sewer and why.

Dear Mr. Durrance,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: eu777offices@gmail.com <eu777offices@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 3:36 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Chairman Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Commission Clerk <CommissionClerk@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: My support for central sewer and why.

To whom it may concern-

My wife and I strongly support centralized sewer service for Palm Island. We currently own two vacant lots and are in the process of working with our architect and engineers to obtain a building permit. Based on my recent conversations with my septic engineer and septic drain field contractor, the cost to construct

and install a septic system and associated drainfield is as much or more than the projected cost per owner for sewer. In addition to the less expensive cost of public sewer, I think most people would agree that it is overall better for the environment to have a central sewage system versus private drainfield designed to leech waste water into the soil and/or water table. Finally, the next easy to understand benefit of having central sewer is that it frees up our yard area to be used for parking, landscaping, building area and other uses. Installation of a drainfield eats up a significant portion of most lots on the island and renders the area basically unusable. When considering all of these factors cumulatively from the standpoint of all of the vacant lot owners on the island (which will be built out at some point in time) I would suggest that anyone looking at all facts and factors objectively would come to the same conclusion – central sewer is the hands down best solution when compared to septic and drainfield.

The address of our two vacant lots are:

29 North Gulf Blvd. & 461 North Gulf Blvd.

My wife and I are members of PIE and so we have been kept abreast of the PIE leadership position, which from the correspondence we receive leads us to believe they have a strong opposition to the certification and approval of Environmental Utilities(EU) by the PSC as the wastewater service provider for our island. My QuickTake is the opposition is focused on two primary issues –1) EU does not have the financial wherewithal or skill set to effectively be put in charge of the wastewater system for our island, and 2) either the reported cost per owner of roughly \$13,000-\$20,000 is too high, and/or there is no certainty of a guaranteed max price(GMP). I don't believe I have heard anyone object to central sewer service for the island on environmental grounds. Conversely, I suspect that if you asked the question of each owner on the island as to whether central sewer or private individual drain fields are better for the environment and desired the majority of those persons being intellectually honest would choose public sewer. Assuming this to be true, then the major objections that I am aware of are - 1) cost, and 2) the financial wherewithal and skill set of the applicant.

I have no knowledge or basis to form a comment on whether the applicant has the skill set and financial ability or not to provide and bring to completion a sewer system for our island that is as competitive in price as any other applicant. Therefore, I will leave it to the applicant, the facts presented, and the PSC to arrive at a decision on this issue. On the issue of cost, I would say from the perspective of a vacant lot owner in the process of obtaining permits there is no cost disadvantage in having central sewer. In fact, given all of the factors I have outlined above it is in my opinion less expensive to have public sewer than the cost to install private individual systems and the ongoing maintenance associated with each. As far as making arguments that the projected/reported cost for providing sewer service on our island is more expensive on a per homeowner basis than on the mainland is analogous to the proverbial comparison of apples and oranges. The cost to build my home on the island versus to build my same home on the mainland is also apples and oranges. The cost to build my home on the island far exceeds the cost to build on the mainland for many different reasons including the most obvious which is the ferry/barge fees of getting vehicles and equipment from the mainland to the island. Following the same line of linear reasoning, I would certainly expect the cost per unit to provide sewer service on the island to be more than on the mainland. Unfortunately, everything cost more these days. In closing, I would like to say that I certainly understand the viewpoint of the persons that are in opposition to this project. And, to be honest if I had just finished construction of my new home and paying for my new septic and drainfield I might vote with my wallet and be in opposition to the project. Just being honest. With that said, other than cost to existing homeowners, I can't think of any other reason that having sewer service for the island is not in our long-term best interest.

Chad Durrance, MAI | Cert Gen RZ987

Durrance & Associates

300 S. Hyde Park Avenue, Suite 201

Tampa, Florida 33606
(D) 813.258.8464 | (C) 813.477.3388

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:46 PM
To: 'Craig Grant'
Subject: RE: Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Grant,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Craig Grant <craiggrant2012@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 2:43 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; commissionerpassidomo@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

Dear Florida Public Service Commissioners and whom it may concern,

I am requesting that you deny EU's application for wastewater service on LGI, Don Pedro and Palm Island.

I am not convinced the need for this service is the #1 offender of the polluted water in nearby waters. Please make it a priority to clean up the commercial offenders of putting pollutants into our waterways, especially the rivers that feed into our waterways. I did not request this service to be provided on the island and feel this approach is like throwing a bucket of water on a forest fire with each bucket of water costing about \$20,000. Then for the monthly fee of \$215.00 you get a garden hose to continue fighting the forest fire. Not an effective solution and the owners are being forced to pay dearly for a solution that most owners do not want.

I am concerned about EU's finances to handle a project of this magnitude and technical their expertise. The rates that I have seen proposed are extremely high on an upfront capital expense to the property owners and the proposed monthly rates are ridiculous too. As I understand there are only a few right of ways on the island and securing what is needed could be huge additional costs not addressed in the proposal thus far.

These are only a few of the concerns. I also have a serious concern over the principals in EU. As you all know, they currently offer water service on the island. I question their water infrastructure, having seen exposed pipes running down the middle of the sand paths on the island. (I took pics if you like to see) I've seen golf carts hit their infrastructure numerous times causing major leaks on the island creating ponds and making the paths unpassable. I would think the infrastructure would be better designed and far more protected. Since water is such a precious commodity I assumed it would be a huge priority for them to get it fixed immediately. I was told by one of their representatives that it isn't a huge deal since they get a 7% buffer on the usage vs. billing from Charlotte county. I was also told by the same representative that they would raise their rates by 3% this year because they could. I'm sure it is correct and most utilities would do the increase but showing the insincerity and lack of appreciation was certainly discouraging.

I have been associated with a number private public utilities and they all have performed community involvement and community betterment activities & functions. I have been an owner on the island for over 7 years and have never seen LGI Water do anything for community betterment that didn't involve their personal gain. For example, after hurricane Irma LGI Water used their heavy equipment to help clean the beach debris off Coconut Palm Lane beach access. Not for the island, but for the beach access the principals of LGI Water use for their streets beach access.

The sand road going North & South was cut off a few years back by an unhappy owner. He could do that because many of the sand paths are on private property. Representatives of LGI Water used their equipment to build a new road for island access. Again they offered their heavy equipment and helped with the matter because they needed full access to the island for LGI Water purposes. Hopefully I'm wrong and they have done things for LGI's benefit however I personally haven't seen it.

Only a portion of the island has fire hydrants. Most properties South of Hideaway Bay Beach Club does not have practical access to fire hydrants. That is something I feel should have been addressed when granting LGI Water their utility license as the PSC has required all livable properties on the island to connect to LGI water service. I feel this is something that should be addressed as an good faith ambassador to the island that it serves.

Last year HBBC got into an extremely vulnerable situation regarding their fire sprinkler system and needed an LGI water hook-up for the system. LGI Water seemed to slow roll the fire suppression system connections until LGI Water resolved a request with HBBC. A matter based on a verbal agreement from many years past. The situation was very sketchy and questionable, however HBBC was desperate and really had little choice but come to terms while they were at the mercy of LGI Water.

Again, I would prefer Charlotte County take on a project of this magnitude if it is truly a priority. Therefore please deny EU's application for wastewater services on LGI, Don Pedro and Palm Island.

Sincerely,

Craig Grant
9476 Alborado
Little Gasparilla Island
913-314-4146 m

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:45 PM
To: 'Carolyn Wilkinson'
Subject: RE: LGI SEWER APPLICAITON_Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Wilkinson,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

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Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: Carolyn Wilkinson <cvw@coredevelopmentsolutions.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:54 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: LGI SEWER APPLICAITON_Docket #20200226-SU

CAROLYN

VP, COMMERCIAL DIVISION
DAS, Airspace & Asset Protection Systems
813.966.9314
cvw@coredevelopmentsolutions.com

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:45 PM
To: 'ep271@comcast.net'
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. and Ms. Porro,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

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Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark
Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 413-6038

From: ep271@comcast.net <ep271@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

From: Edward and Sharon Porro
271 Bocilla Drive
Don Pedro Island
ep271 @ comcast.net
Mailing at PO Box 3879, Placida FL 33946

With regards to the above mentioned Docket, reference is made, with regards of the attempt of Environmental Utilities to establish a sewer system on our Island.

We strongly oppose this idea.

What evidence exactly exists to support there is a problem. Has testing been done? The last time this came up I recall PIE conducting a series of water quality tests and the water was fine.

The financial aspects of all this seems scary. What I am seeing are proposed rates that our of the norm and the install costs are also high. There will be considerable life style changes, some may have to sell.

What back ground does the builder have. Talking about history you may want look at some of the past events where the straight and narrow was not taken.

Finally I think this a reasonable question;

With the assumption the builder is doing this to make a profit,

The question is, if the proposed builder had not started this, would have the county started this?

Also, if this all fails in the future, who cleans up the mess.