

Charlie Smith

From: Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 9:47 AM
To: 'Kristen & Colin'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

Good morning Kristen Lagor,

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.

Best regards,

Charlie Smith II

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
850-413-6770

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From: Kristen & Colin <kristenandcolin@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:16 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Chairman La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Clerk of the Commission,

I am an owner of 9752 Little Gasparilla Island and would like to ask you to deny Environment Utilities (EU) application to install wastewater service on the barrier island especially Little Gasparilla Island (LGI).

No proven need for service

On LGI there are a handful of full-time residents and the rest of the houses are only used occasionally on weekends as vacation homes, so the volume is not as much as it is with a full-time resident with large families. The low volume can be determined by looking at the water consumption. Additionally, water quality testing by independent/reputable firms have not been conducted so there is no creditable reason for converting to sewer.

Private property rights

Nobody seems to have an answer when asked why water lines were allowed to be run on private property. Utility easements on our private property especially for a tank and equipment is not acceptable as it we are giving up our rights for any sort of equipment to be placed there which could be a loud pump, unsightly tank, etc.

Monthly costs and EU's lack of experience

If this is truly a need Charlotte county should devise a better plan to roll this out versus entertaining a new company that has never done sewer. EU is owned by the same company that does the current water, and the service for the water has come under scrutiny of how they reach out to residents when there is a water main break or need for a boil water advisory, etc. If there is a spill for the sewer, they have no track record of being able to deal with this timely and effectively. It has been documented that the monthly cost for sewer will be over \$200 which coupled with the existing water cost of \$135, this is \$4,020 per year which is double what we pay for our full-time residence in Pinellas County for our family of 5.

Initial costs

We purchased our house less than 4 years ago and wanted to be good Stewards of the environment and decided at the time to replace the septic system with a new tank and drain field to ensure our house did not contribute to any wastewater issues. The proposal by EU to this new system mentions that our new system will be removed and replaced with a smaller holding tank which does not make sense. Coupled with the financial issues we have run into with Hurricane Ian, and the rising insurance costs, this is a huge financial burden for us and the other homeowners which will force many folks off the island. Additionally, the \$12,000 initial cost seems outdated and we are concerned that it will exceed this and homeowners will be forced to pay this exorbitant bill.

I hope that you will deny EU's application.

Kristen Lagor

kristenandcolin@outlook.com

9752 Little Gasparilla Island Placida, FL 33946