

**Brian Schultz**

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**From:** Brian Schultz on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:13 AM  
**To:** 'joshjaquish@yahoo.com'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** FW: Objection Letter - Docket No. 20200226-SU  
**Attachments:** EU Objection Letter for LGI Sewer 1.12.21 JJ.pdf

Good Morning, Josh Jaquish

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200226-SU and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Sincerely,

*Brian Schultz*

Commission Deputy Clerk II  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850.413.6770

*PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.*

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**From:** Josh Jaquish <joshjaquish@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:53 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Cc:** Josh Jaquish <joshjaquish@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Objection Letter - Docket No. 20200226-SU

Dear Commission Clerk:

My name is Josh Jaquish. I am a property owner on Little Gasparilla Island. My property is within the service area contained in the application from Environmental Utilities, LLC for central sewer. I am writing to object to application for original certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC per Docket No. 20200226-SU.

I have concerns about the construction, operation, maintenance, and cost of the wastewater system that is in the early planning stages with Charlotte County, Environmental Utilities LLC and the Public Service Commission. I understand that Little Gasparilla Island (LGI) and the surrounding areas are environmentally sensitive and would benefit from a wastewater system to curb the nutrient runoff from aging septic systems on the island. I have reviewed the comprehensive Sewer Master Plan that Charlotte County released in 2017. It does not appear at this time the

Environmental Utilities has conducted any further investigation past what was provided in the sewer master plan and is now seeking an application to provide wastewater service.

Little Gasparilla Island only has about 60-80 full time residents on the island. The other homes are vacation homes and not inhabited on a regular basis. The project also does not include the two condominium complexes on the island, which have the highest concentration of residents. Given the unique nature of Little Gasparilla Island, I believe that there should be an extensive engineering study conducted on which type of sewer system will work best given the range of flow variations and extended time with minimal usage. The study should include an evaluation of the low-pressure system proposed, as well as the vacuum system mentioned in the master plan. Another viable alternative that should be considered is advance treatment units which treat individual residential systems to a higher biological level than traditional septic systems. With the nature of the use of homes on Little Gasparilla Island, I foresee many challenges collecting and conveying the wastewater back to the mainland for treatment. If the system is not properly designed and maintained for the different flow conditions that will be experienced, it could create more environmental issues than we are currently experiencing.

We are existing customers of Little Gasparilla Water Utility (LGWU), which is owned and operated by the same parties that are applying as Environmental Utilities, LLC. It is my understanding that the owners have minimal to no experience operating a wastewater system. Based on this inexperience, I am concerned about environmental and public health.

While the project to bring sewer services to the island has merit, Environmental Utilities has not proven to be the best option for Little Gasparilla Island. I am not aware of any type of reference or qualification process that has taken place or been disclosed to the public. I believe that this project should be taken on by Charlotte County to design, construct, and operate the sewer system. If Charlotte County is interested in assistance on this project, the County should continue to seek experienced parties through a Request for Qualifications process to provide sewer service to Little Gasparilla Island.

I object to Environmental Utilities for the reasons presented in this letter, plus the applicant's lack of experience as an owner/operator of a wastewater utility and the inadequate information regarding the applicant's financial strength. Therefore, I formally request that EU's Application for a Certificate to provide wastewater service to Little Gasparilla Island be denied.

I would like to be informed of all meetings, notices, recommendations, information and final orders with regards to the wastewater system project affecting Cape Haze/Knight Island/Don Pedro/LGI.

Sincerely,

Josh Jaquish  
9378 Little Gasparilla Island  
Placida, FL 33946

Contact information:

Josh Jaquish

2088 Michigan Ave NE

St. Petersburg, FL 33703

[joshjaquish@yahoo.com](mailto:joshjaquish@yahoo.com)

Josh Jaquish  
9378 Little Gasparilla Island  
Placida, FL 33946

January 12, 2021

Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
Commission Clerk  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
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Page 2

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Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
Commission Clerk  
January 12, 2021  
Page 3

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