

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:09 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: FW: Docket #20200226-SU

Importance: High

Please place the e-mail below in Docket No. 20200226.

Thank you!

From: Barber, Carley <carley.barber@ifco.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:05 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>
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU
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Good Morning Public Service Commission Members,

My name is Carley Barber and my family owns two homes on Little Gasparilla Island. I am writing you to formally request that the Public Service Commission deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Little Gasparilla Island is a unique place, unlike any other community in Florida that I have ever been. The absence of an access bridge, roads and cars allow it to remain largely untouched by the commercialization of the mainland. I have been coming to the island with my family for over 30 years. My parents met on the island in the 70s and my children have been coming to the island since they were born.

In the whole time that my family has owned homes on LGI, we have never ever had any significant issues with the septic systems at either house. The proposed initial cost and monthly cost by EU would force both members of my family to sell their properties. My mother has saved and saved and made sacrifices in other areas of her life to keep her small home on the island. There is no way that she would be able to afford what EU is proposing, especially with no pay-over-time option, and selling this home would be devastating to our family.

Aside from sentimental reasons for opposing EU's plan for wastewater service, there are so many other detrimental side affects that you should consider. The island has one barge access point, on private property and controlled by the property owner. The island paths are narrow, sometimes wet, and lined with the island's beautiful vegetation. These paths are not meant for service trucks and equipment would destroy these paths and homeowners' property. We have so many protected species that make their home on the island, such as burrowing owls and gopher tortoises. A project of this scale would no doubt displace and threaten them.

This wastewater service project does not make sense for Little Gasparilla Island. There have been no tests and no incidents to suggest that there are any quality issues with the water supply on or around the island. The community on the island has a small town feel and when one person is having a septic truck barged over to have their tank pumped, several others will plan together to have theirs done on the same day. Homeowners on the island talk to each other, help each other and take care of their homes and current septic systems appropriately. Approval of EU's application is

going to force so many good, hard-working people off the island and cause an influx of big business, rental companies and new owners who do not appreciate what we have now.

I urge you to think about the serious consequences of approving EU's application. We do not need this and our environment does not need this!

Thank you,

Carley Barber

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