

Lisa Smith

From: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:43 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket Correspondence - 20200226
Attachments: Docket #20200226-SU; RE. Docket #20200226-SU ; RE. Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Objection of Palm Island Sewer Project; Docket # 20200226-SU; RE. Docket #20200226-SU; Docket - #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU - 43 Bayshore Circle Placida, FL. - Daniel Petersen; 20200226; Docket#20200226-SU; Docket #20200226SU; SUBJECT Docket #20200226-SU Notice of Objection to the Central Sewer System Proposal for Palm Island and Request the PSC to Deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization the Proposed Central Sewer System for Palm Island; Docket#20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-us; Little Gasparilla Sewer; Docket #20200226-SU; docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU Environmental Utilities Proposed Sewer; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU; Docket# 20200226-SU; Re. Docket#20200226-SU; Little Gasparilla sewer proposal; #20200226-SU; RE. Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU; RE. Docket #20200226-SU; Re Objection to EU proposal for sewers - Palm Island; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Re Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-S; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226 -SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket# 20200226; Docket # 20200226-SU; FW Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU; Docket # 20200226-SU ; sewer system for little gasparilla island.; Docket # 20200226- SU; Fw Docket #20200226-SU; Sewer - Knight Island, Palm Island Don Pedro; Objection to private sewer; Palm island ; Palm Island Sewer; Central Sewer Don Pedro Island; Deny EU's application for original certificate Docket # 20200226-SU; Island Sewer support; Sewer palm island; Request to Deny EU's Application for Original Certificate of Authorization Docket #20200226-SU

Good morning,

Please place the attached emails in CORRESPONDENCE-Consumers & Representatives in docket 20200226.

Thank you!

Lisa Smith

From: Schaible, Evelyn J <Evelyn.Schaible@flhealth.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:09 AM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

I, Evelyn J. Schaible, an Island property and homeowner within the proposed service area of Don Pedro island, oppose the proposal for central sewer by Environmental Utilities. I object the proposal. Please deny the application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Thank you for your time!
Evelyn J Schaible

*By providing this electronic signature, I **<Evelyn Schaible>** am attesting that I understand that electronic signatures are legally binding and have the same meaning as handwritten signatures. I am also confirming that internal controls have been maintained, and that policies and procedures were properly followed to ensure the authenticity of the electronic signature. This statement is to certify that I confirm that this electronic signature is to be the legally binding equivalent of my handwritten signature and that the data on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

Lisa Smith

From: Gary Galloway <garudy54@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:06 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioner LaRosa,

I am asking the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization to Environmental Utilities for central sewer on Don Pedro Island, Knight Island, etc.

My name is Gary Galloway and I own a house and live on Don Pedro Island. I was an engineer with a multinational corporation for 32 years. I have sponsored, developed, managed, and directed several multi-million-dollar capital projects. In all those years I have developed and written multiple specifications for various projects. I have interviewed countless contractors and reviewed their qualifications and experience. So, to say the least, I have had some experience with capital projects, engineering, and maintenance systems.

After reviewing various information about Environmental Utilities(EU) I see several areas of concern about Environmental Utilities(EU) and what they are recommending for installing for a sanitary drainage system on Don Pedro, and Knight Islands (aka Palm Island).

*First and foremost Environmental Utilities has NO experience. EU has shown NO qualifications and technical expertise.

*To my knowledge EU has not provided any study on the best system to install on a barrier island such as ours (strike1).

*Limited and/or weak descriptions of cost to property owners associated with installation and the maintenance of the type of system being proposed. EU has not provided any efficient administrative fee structure that would include transparency, horizontal equity, or administrative ease (strike 2).

*No justification for the need for service. EU has not demonstrated any need for service at this time on these islands. No water quality testing, no environmental impact study, no biological assessment of the impact to wildlife and possible endangered species. (strike 3).

*EU has not demonstrated its financial literacy in both word and deed. That leads me to question EU's insubstantial financial ability. To my knowledge EU has not provided evidence of their financial ability to accomplish a project of this magnitude.(strike 4).

It is true that the county has recommended sewers in its future plans for barrier islands. That, I will not deny, but Environmental Utilities is not the company to do it. I strongly recommend Environmental Utilities be denied the Original Certificate of Authorization for central sewer on Don Pedro Island, Knight Island, etc. both now and in any future request.

Gary Galloway

Lisa Smith

From: Linda Burkhardt <linda.burkhardt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 6:58 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

My husband and I own a home at 120 Bocilla Drive on Palm Island and I am writing this email to request that the PSC deny Environmental Utility's (EU) application for wastewater service for our community.

My main concern is whether any real need for this service has been established by those of us who live in this community. If our homeowners' association or a group of concerned property owners had established a need for wastewater service, I would support moving forward with a solution. I cannot understand how a privately held company like EU could be allowed to force their wastewater treatment plan on residents without their input. It seems to me that if a need was actually established, the property owners in our community should have the opportunity to evaluate the plans and rates of multiple service providers. Every neighbor I have spoken to is opposed to the plans and tactics of EU. Our community is also concerned by the lack of EU's experience in this field and who is overseeing their planning, construction and costs to the homeowners.

Thank you for your time and again, please deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Linda Burkhardt
120 Bocilla Drive
Placida, FL
(573)280-4826

Lisa Smith

From: Feiner Daniel <feinerdr@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:04 AM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; clerk@psc.fl.state.us
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear commissioners

My name is Veronica Miks and I own a house on Little Gasparilla Island. I am formally requesting that the PSC deny the application of the company EU for wastewater services and their Original Certificate of Authorization.

I have many concerns about this company. When they originally provided water as a private company, due to their inexperience, they overextended their capabilities on Little Gasparilla Island, subsequently needing the county to oversee, and now, by default, many had to forsake water saving cisterns and force hook up to his private company. His rates for metering cost more than an average homeowner on the mainland, and the island had to go to the state commission to object to his overcharge of water rates.

Now there is a costly proposal by his company, which has no experience in sewer development, to place a sewer system on our island, a small barrier island, with no commercial development and very few permanent year round residents. There is no farming or grass which contribute to fertilizer runoff and the current sewers should be up to current Florida code. Looking at the state records, pollution and runoff are non existent in the waterways around our island. I know for a fact that my well, which I don't use, was tested for nitrogen and e. Coli and passed, showing that the ground water is not being contaminated in my area. There is no urgent need for a sewer system in this area to be placed by a company with no experience.

My other concerns include prohibitory costs to a person with a fixed income. This company has not been forthright in costs, but I have been told it will probably be greater than 10K to be paid up front along with secondary costs of electrical panel to support the type of sewer they want to build, which is not practical on an island with frequent power outages. Supposedly, they want to place a grinding type sewer, which although cheaper initially, is potentially more costly as time goes on, especially if electrical panels need upgrading, the grinder deteriorates faster in a costal climate and needs replacement every 5 years. If there is a prolonged loss of power, there is no backup plan because this type of sewer doesn't work without power, potentially causing a health problem. Other than supplying and maintaining your own generator, another cost, there is no alternative. I imagine it would be very hard on the elderly if there was a problem.

My other issue is the environmental impact and there has been no studies to see the effect. EU has sent misleading articles about how the Crystal River is affected, but this is an area with a higher population impact and density, totally dissimilar to the area of Little Gasparilla Island. We have no cars, no grass, no agricultural areas, no commercial property. It has two small condo areas that are not high rise buildings, just side by side units, and empty lots and single unit family homes which are mostly 2 bedrooms; not high density. There are protected gopher tortoises here and the other protected animals that use their burrows. EU plans on going through a state park for their set up and through the intercostal to connect to the mainland. I have not heard of their plan to mitigate their environmental impact.

These are a few of my issues with this unproven company, and it will impact me both financially as well as concerns of damage to my property and landscaping, especially as I have explicitly used native plants, bushes and trees to attract birds, butterflies and other native species and allow them a habitat on the barrier island. I maintain my septic system. Please do not allow this unproven, inexperienced company the rights to place an unwanted, non urgent, inappropriate expensive sewer on the island.

Thank you very much for reading my concerns.

Veronica Miks
Feinerdr@sbcglobal.net
8226 LGI

Sent from my iPad

Lisa Smith

From: leerobertsdpt@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 11:28 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU
Attachments: Commissioner LaRosa PSC letter January 2022.docx

Please find attached a letter requesting that the PSC deny EU's request for a central sewer project on Little Gasparilla Island.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

William Lee Roberts

Lisa Smith

From: RaeAnne Brenneise <rabrenneise@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:39 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Objection of Palm Island Sewer Project
Attachments: sewer objection letter.docx

Lisa Smith

From: Cathy Derr <cathy@gwamarillo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:09 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

I am the property owner of 530 N Gulf Rd, Unit A & B.on Don Pedro Island.

As a property owner, I firmly object to the proposal referenced above and ask PSE to deny the application for Original Certification and Authorization for this Proposed Central Sewer System

Thank you,

**Cathy Derr CBD Investments, LLC
530 Gulf Rd Unit 1 & B
Don Pedro Island**

**My phone number 806-679-8436
Home address : 1601 S. Rusk, Amarillo, Texas 79102**

Lisa Smith

From: Andy Ball <gab_three@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 9:02 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident on Don Pedro Island, FL. I am writing in opposition to the approval of Environmental Utilities application for wastewater services here on the island. I have several concerns that have not been addressed and believe are grounds for denial of the application.

The first concern is that there are no proven grounds for the need of service on this island. Water sampling in and around the island has not demonstrated a need for a wastewater system. While septic tanks can leak, simply requiring a sewer system based on data collected from other areas does not justify the installation of a costly wastewater system as proposed on this island. The need for a wastewater system should be based on actual need such as sampling data and an evaluation of the risks. I understand that water sampling in the past has not shown any sewage contamination. Additionally, a sewer system has risks as well. A wastewater system leak would prove more environmentally hazardous than a leaking septic tank. A leak of a wastewater system into our waters would be catastrophic to the environment. Compared to occasional septic tanks leaking, a sewer leak would prove much worse. Such a leak in the sewer is a real possibility. Aside from that, and probably more importantly, if septic tanks are so bad and there is a critical need for sewer, the county should not be issuing permits for new homes with septic. Yet, the county continues to issue permits for new buildings with septic tanks. This is a complete contradiction. Since the county continues to issue permits, the need cannot be critical and therefore not justified.

The desire for a wastewater system appears to be purely of financial gain. I, nor any of my neighbors that I have talked with, have requested a wastewater system. Installation of the wastewater system will primarily benefit EU considering there is no demonstrated critical need.

Another concern is the lack of transparency regarding financing of the project. It is unclear that the project is well financed. Having this clarity would provide some confidence that the project will be done properly and actually get completed. Should EU default and not complete the project due to lack of finances, I have concerns as to what that will mean to me and the condition of the island.

There is also the issue of a lack of technical expertise by EU installing and operating a wastewater system. Operating a drinking water system is much different than operating a wastewater system. The risks and complexity are far greater with a wastewater system. If EU had experience in wastewater systems, I might have some confidence in EU's ability to install and operate the system. In the event of a sewage leak, I am also concerned that EU will not have the experience or expertise to address the problem thus, creating an even larger environmental problem than a leaking septic tank.

Lastly is my concern regarding rates and charges associated with the project. At first there was a ball park estimate of \$20,000. I recently received communication from EU explaining that hook up costs could be at least roughly \$12,000. However, that amount does not appear to address other hidden charges such as costs for new electrical panel, septic tank destruction, cost of grinder, generator, etc. I do not recall seeing anything that addresses rates. However, given the high rates we pay for water, I anticipate similarly high rates for wastewater too. This will create a significant financial burden to me while a private company profits for a service that I have already paid for. The septic tank method of treating wastewater at my residence is a safe and effective system.

Please understand that most islanders are responsible about maintaining their septic tanks and, conscientious about protecting the island where we live. Until these concerns are satisfactorily addressed, I hope the application will be denied by the PSC.

Sincerely,

George A. Ball

191 Bocilla Dr.

Gab_three@yahoo.com

Lisa Smith

From: Christopher Zenaty <czenaty@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 7:54 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket - #20200226-SU

To PSC Officers

Christopher Zenaty - Owner
45 Palm Drive, Placida, Florida - Palm Island

I am formally requesting that PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.

I am concerned with the ability of this company to responsibly complete the project without an exorbitant fee as well as overall ability to complete the project at all.

Due to lack of oversight Palm Island residents currently pay more for water usage than any other water district in the US.

We are not against upgrading to a newer sewer system but do not believe the new plan is acceptable.

We are looking for fair and equitable rate charges and do not have confidence in the technical ability of EU to complete.

There is,
1-Uncertain hook up cost
2-High additional electric costs
3-Tree removal, landscaping will damage the islands fragile ecosystem
4-No single point of general oversight
5-Traffic disruption
6-New easement giveaway- EU claims ownership of utility easement
7-Overall technical proposal not acceptable

Christopher Zenaty
45 Palm Drive
czenaty@aol.com

Lisa Smith

From: dpetersen7735@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 7:22 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Cc: dpetersen7735@comcast.net
Subject: Docket # 20200226-SU - 43 Bayshore Circle Placida, FL. - Daniel Petersen

I am requesting that the Public Service Commission deny the application for the proposed centralized sewer system requested by Environmental Utilities LLC (Jack Boyer).

I live at 43 Bayshore Circle on Don Pedro Island. We care about our ocean and waterways here and have great concerns about Environmental Utilities request to obtain a permit to install a central sewer system.

From 1981 to 1992 I was a District Manager for Indiana Gas, Inc. for several cities in Southeastern Indiana, then Accounting Manager in the Corporate Office in Indianapolis. I know and have experience on the details of managing a utility operation and had the opportunity to work with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. I am familiar with how utilities work and the resources necessary to run a successful utility.

In reading through the testimony provided in the dockets, it is quite clear that EU does not have the experience running a sewer system, nor has he proven the financial capacity to undertake this project.

We are a barrier island accessible by a ferry ride across the intercostal waterway and we often loose power for extended periods of time. Since we have moved here only three years ago, we have lost power for an extended period at least once a year. The LPS system that EU proposes has considerable issues during power loss. The only way to protect the environment in these situations so the smaller tank does not back up and overflow during an extended power loss, would be the installation of a generator at each home. EU has not considered any of these issues and is clearly looking to build the cheapest system available without consideration of the extreme environment on the island. Besides not properly considering all the costs associate to the homeowner, my concern is the "estimated " hook up cost of approximately \$13K that EU has submitted. These proposed hook up costs are not based on anything but EU's estimates. I have not been able to find anything that EU provided that substantiates these construction costs and what happens or what is EU's plan if the construction costs are higher than the estimated costs? What is the impact to us homeowners then, especially since EU has not provided information that they have the financial ability to complete the project in the first place?

For the above reasons and for the protection of our environment on this island, I respectfully request that you deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for EU's proposed central sewer system.

Thank you-

Daniel Petersen
Palm Island homeowner.

Lisa Smith

From: Holly Parrish <hollyparrish@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 6:08 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: 20200226

Holly Parrish homeowner - 540 N Gulf
Steve Parrish homeowner - 540 N Gulf

Property owners on Palm Island

We object to the proposal and ask the PSE to deny the application for original certification and authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Sent from my iPhone

Lisa Smith

From: Richard Collett <rhapsodyballroom@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 5:52 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket#20200226-SU

From Richard J. Collett, property owner on Don Pedro Island (Colony Don Pedro unit #8; also 50 S. Gulf Blvd)

I hereby formally request that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service, based on the arguments in opposition to the proposed central sewer system as listed below.

I have been an owner on this beautiful island for over thirty years. My love for this special place is based on the unforgettable memories of wildlife, ocean and the fellowship of friends that we have met over the years. I can't count the many times this fantastic getaway has helped released the stress of life's burdens.

I just cannot even think of the unimaginable upheaval and disruption that the incredible noise of heavy equipment, the endless digging, and dramatic traffic disruption that full time residence and vacation renters will have to endure for months or, yes, even years. But I personally believe that the most damage will be done to the other residents of this island, the wildlife. The biggest thing that makes this island so very special is seeing things like a gopher tortoise snacking on vegetation or as simple as rabbits with their offspring enjoying a morning adventure. Not to mention the numerous species of birds that have called this island home for so many years. It will not take much to disrupt this delicate balance of nature. Past history tells us that once it has been disrupted by, yet again, man's desire to change something that does not need changing, it will never be the same.

The thirty plus years I have been coming to this island I have yet to hear of problems with the septic systems that is in place. I did have to address the septic system on my property once, and that was due to the drain field being clogged by roots. Which brings up the point that I now have a new drain field and septic tank at a cost of approximately \$17,000. If this proposal is approved what am I to do with a perfectly good septic system? Will EU reimburse me for a 1 year old system, or will they just dig it up and haul it away, in the name of "progress?"

The cost that has been mentioned in this proposal would most likely force many long term owners to abandon their dream. The cost of living for property owners on the island is extreme as it is. The upfront costs as well as future expenses proposed would place an extreme financial burden to each family. All of this to replace a system that has worked perfectly, just as it was intended to, because a company that really has no track record in safety or in financial stability, wants to do it. Once they completely disrupt what is now a beautiful and peaceful island, they will move on and leave the residents with the full responsibility of physically and financially maintaining their "new and improved system". As anyone can tell you, these last few years have been taxing on everyones pocketbook. This company is telling us that we must come up with large sums of money up front and who knows how much in "special assessments" for unexpected maintenance due to corrosion and mechanical and electrical breakdowns for years to come. They are also taking away part of our property to make room for the laying of the sewer pipes. My question is simple. Why go through this horrendous change when it really is not needed? Again, I state, that I have been a property owner for over thirty years. I have two properties on the island and I have never heard of anyone, from other owners, renters or property managers having problems with our current sewer system.

Therefore, based on the arguments above, I hereby formally request that the PSC deny the EU's application for wastewater service. The overall impact on our livelyhood both emotionally and financially, the devastation of the wildlife and overall uniqueness of our island makes this, I believe, a very easy decision to make.

Sincerely,
Richard J. Collett
Rhapsodyballroom@aol.com

Lisa Smith

From: quaintfox@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 4:45 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226SU

From:
Catherine Harvie
9878 Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL 33946

Quaintfox@aol.com
407 694 5816

January 23, 2022

To: Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee,
FL 32399-0850

Dear Commissioners of the Public Service Commission,

I am a property owner at 9878 Little Gasparilla Island Placida FL 33946 which is a property within the service area of the proposed central sewer system (hereafter referred to as "project"), Docket #20200226SU. I formally object to and request that PSC deny Environment Utilities (EU) application for Original Certificate of Authorization for the proposed central sewer system.

Installation of proposed central sewer system will impose multiple hardships on the property owners on the LGI both financially, and logistically as well as have a potential for causing environmental damage.

Original estimate of hook-up cost for the project was about \$20K per unit. Even though after the rates and tariffs were finally submitted by the applicant, the requested Service Availability Charge per ERC was reduced to total estimated \$13,221, other financial and logistical consideration cannot be ignored.

Every homeowner on the LGI will be obligated to pay a monthly sewer ONLY bill in the amount currently estimated at \$178.78. This amount is basically two times the amount of what residents pay in Rotonda, the closest to LGI mainland location, and for Rotonda residents their bill includes BOTH water and sewer. In the meantime, the average cost to EU per unit per month is \$97.18.

Due to installation on a barrier island the project will not utilize central pump stations and each owner will be required to have individual "grinder" pumps installed which is an additional cost ranging from \$1,100 to over \$6,000 per pump (here are a couple of sample pricing/requirements, we are not sure which exact grinder pump would be required by project installers [Liberty Pumps 2448LSG202 \\$5,807.76 Grinder Package, Simplex | Zoro.com](#), [Gol Pumps Sewage-Grinder Pump, 460V, 3PH, 3in., SS304, Max. Flow 20640 GPH, Horsepower 7-1/2 HP, Port Size 3 in, Model# GPQ-732 | Northern Tool](#), [Liberty Pumps PRG102M \\$1,155.75 Grinder Pump, Manual, 230V | Zoro.com](#)). Moreover, a "grinder" pump requires a dedicated 230-240V electrical panel installed by a licensed electrician at owner's expense, and if the owner has maxed out their main electric grid with other large-draw items, the panel will need an expensive upgrade to accommodate the new panel.

Grinder pumps have limited capacity (typically, 60 gal), so if there is a power outage, which happens on LGI A LOT and often for prolonged periods of time (sometimes for over a week, if it's due to a large storm) the pump will get over filled and cause sewage back up. This can be avoided by installing a back-up power generator, however this is another cost from about \$700 for a manual start generator to over \$10,000 for a stand-by one. Given that a lot of owners on the LGI

don't live there full time, and even those who do live on LGI full-time are under evacuation orders during hurricanes that cause lengthy power outages, manual start generators are not an option since there would be no one to start them. Stand-by ones are exponentially more costly and their installation involves even more costs and logistical difficulties due to frequent flooding during high tides and storms.

Project installation would also require mandatory hook-up as per Charlotte County regulations within 1 year of availability with no grandfathering of existing septic tanks even if they are of recent installation. Homeowners would find themselves financially responsible for removing and crushing and filling the septic area regardless of septic tank age and/or condition as well as clearing landscape/removing trees to gain access for septic tanks to be removed.

With all these costs required to hook up to the project and no pay-overtime plans homeowners may be forced to take personal loans to cover the lump-sum costs of connection to the project regardless of their financial circumstances/ability to pay these loans back on time.

Moreover, some properties have access constraints (such as no road to the property), permanently or semi-permanently submerged immediately adjacent grounds, etc. that will further complicate how applicant gains access for project installation without leaving a single property boundaries or causing structural and/or environmental damage. Most current utility easements are located in the road right-of-way. The applicant (EU) has claimed ownership of a utility easement solely for the purpose of the project that will go from the sewer equipment, located near the house to the connection in the road without compensating the homeowner, causing further financial damages to homeowners by negatively affecting their property values.

Applicant is NOT a contractor and has NOT won a bid to install a sewer. Homeowners have no say in who will be contracted for the project installation. Applicant has the right to outsource the installation to a contractor of their choice, no performance bond is required, so there is no single point of recourse for the homeowners in case of project failure. Moreover, multiple agencies (County, DEP, etc.) are responsible for their specific areas under regulation/permitting, which creates a nightmare for determining the exact entity to be held responsible if the project runs out of money or fails entirely.

If the project installation is successfully completed the homeowners are still facing problematic system maintenance issues and emergency repairs. At this point the applicant has not addressed how the project will be serviced for regular maintenance issues or emergency failures/repairs due to weather and/or other adverse conditions. By being located on a barrier island the equipment is exposed to harsh environmental factors such as salt air and increased humidity as well as frequent flooding during high tides and/or storms which greatly reduces the life of equipment. For instance, average exterior A/C unit lasts about 5 years. The project equipment will likely need replacing about every 5 years as well as homeowners' responsibility and expense.

Additionally, no water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for sewer. Construction activities required to install the project will negatively affect the habitat and interfere with endangered species such as the gopher tortoise. Widespread construction and vehicle access will also damage the protected plant species of sea grapes and sea oats which, in turn, protect the dunes that form the barrier Little Gasparilla Island from erosion. Destroying dune-stabilizing plants will expose the properties to greater damage during storm and high tide flooding. For comparison: just to install a wooden dune walk-over requires DEP permitting and the installer must ensure that such walk-over does not damage the dunes and the stabilizing plants. Imagine what havoc would a sewer installation wreak on a barrier island with just golf cart or pedestrian use-created paths, no paved roads, or current vehicle access!

In the event of damage to the project equipment a sewer spill will pollute the adjacent waters of the Gulf and the Intracoastal. We just had that happen in the Tampa area when their sewage system failed ([60,000 gallons of wastewater overflow into Tampa Bay waterways | wtsp.com](https://www.wtsp.com)). That will damage the environment much more than a subaqueous crossing from one or more septic systems that develop leaks.

To summarize: this project imposes a great financial burden and too much responsibility on homeowners. In addition it causes tremendous logistical difficulties and has a grave potential for large-scale environmental damage. For these reasons, I formally object to and request that PSC deny Environment Utilities (EU) application for Original Certificate of Authorization for the proposed central sewer system.

Respectfully,

Catherine Harvie

Lisa Smith

From: robert.der.der@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 4:22 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: SUBJECT: Docket #20200226-SU Notice of Objection to the Central Sewer System Proposal for Palm Island and Request the PSC to Deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization the Proposed Central Sewer System for Palm Island

My name is Robert Der and I own a home and reside on Palm Island at:

171 South Gulf Boulevard
Placida, FL 33946-3294

My mailing address is:

P.O. Box 3294
Placida, FL 33946-3294

I am writing you to formally object to the proposed central sewer system for waste water service for Palm Island and request the PSC to deny the Environmental Utilities (EU) Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for the Proposed a Central Sewer System which includes Palm Island. Please understand that Palm Island is a bridgeless barrier island where access is only by a small ferry/barge system with very limited capability to transport large and heavy equipment that will be required for the project. This would significantly increase the project timing and cost and significantly reduce the ability of the islanders to get on and off the island during construction. I think this application lacks sufficient detail and analysis from an inexperienced small operator with a questionable reputation. I believe EU is hoping to obtain approval of the application and flipping it to another company for a quick profit. I formally request that you reject or deny EU's Application for Original Certificate or Authorization for the Proposed a Central Sewer System for the following reasons:

1. **NEED FOR SERVICE.** I am not aware of any scientific or environmental studies have ever been conducted to determine that there is a need for a central sewer system for Palm Island. I am a seasonal resident of Palm Island and am here only just over six months a year. Many home owners, including renters, stay on Palm Island much less than six months a year. I estimate that the total occupancy duration for our homes, including renters for the rental homes, would average substantially less than six months, probably closer to three months, per year. Palm Island has primarily residential properties with only Palm Island Resort (Resort) at the north end of Knight Island as the ONLY commercial entity on the island. The Resort consists of privately owned condo units and homes for rent as well as some owner occupied private residences with a restaurant and a couple of small shops. There are no additional stores, restaurants or other businesses that would dictate a need for a centralized municipal sewage treatment facility. Palm Island Resort owns and operates its own sewage treatment facility. The Resort and sewage facility should continue to provide for and take care of the Resort's needs. While the Palm Island homes have been on septic systems for years, the local water has been periodically tested and the results consistently do not show that the current residential septic systems are negatively impacting the water quality and local environment. I believe a possible leak from the proposed underwater pipeline carrying the waste material poses a much higher risk. I, also, believe the construction of the central sewer system would have a negative effect on local habitat and endangered species like the gopher turtles.

The installation of the new sewer system would require us homeowners to:

- Pay a huge connection fee
- Pay a large monthly fee
- Pay a large monthly fee that could be twice as high as some nearby areas
- Impact on current utilities such as electrical upgrades and a need for a generator for power interruptions (Palm Island experiences multiple power outages each year)
- Additional costs for yard and landscaping work due to sewer hookup

We should not be trying to fix something that is not broken. Due to the lack of demonstrated scientific evidence for the need for a centralized sewer system and the significant costs to be incurred, I strongly recommend that EU's application must be denied or rejected.

2. **FINANCIAL ABILITY.** EU has not provided sufficient and fully transparent information regarding its ability to finance this multi-million dollar and multi-year project. EU is a newly formed small company with no track record or financial statements to indicate that they would be capable of obtaining financing for and reliably managing a project of this magnitude and complexity. The requirement for performance bonds is a common business practice for construction projects and in this specific case of an inexperienced and small company like EU, this should be mandatory and nonnegotiable! I believe there is substantial risk that EU would not have the technical expertise or financial resources to obtain a performance bond, much less reliably completing the project.

If for some unfathomable and unbelievable reason, the application is granted, the application should be non-transferable. This would prevent EU from flipping the rights to the project as it may not have any intention or capability of completing the project. This would prevent an unqualified company like EU to flip the application to another company for a large fee and a quick profit.

Due to the small size of the company and lack of demonstrated financial resources and questionable intent and ability to execute on the project, I strongly recommend that EU's application must be denied or rejected.

3. **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.** It is apparent that EU does not have technical expertise or skill set to put in a central sewer system. The only experience the owners of EU claim is the distribution of water to Little Gasparilla Island. That company has a history of poor service and dissatisfied customers. A water supply company that accepts treated water from another mainland utility and then distributes it, reads the meters, and collects the payments, is vastly different from the complexity and magnitude of designing, installing, maintaining and running a municipal sewage system on a barrier island. I understand that EU plans to contract with an engineering/construction firm to design and build out the proposed system. I question if the two owners of EU would even be qualified to draft the technical specifications for a request for a proposal to build the system or evaluate the proposals once they arrive. The EU owners have no experience or qualifications in designing, building and management of a project of this size and complexity. Due to EU's lack of technical expertise, experience and resources, I strongly recommend that EU's application must be denied or rejected.

4. **FAIR AND EQUITABLE RATES & CHARGES.** From the start, EU has not been transparent or fully analyzed the the costs and resulting rates and charges for the proposed central sewer system. Initially, EU boldly and without merit requested to have the Authorization separated from any information on proposed installation costs or rates. The PSC thankfully denied the request. Following the denial, EU suggested a possible connection fee of \$20,000 per dwelling. It seems that this was simply a guess they hoped to get approved. Now, EU is "guessing" a much lower connection fee of \$13,000 per dwelling. EU has yet to present transparent and realistic cost estimates, calculations and related assumptions based on certified preliminary

designs and specifications to justify rates and charges. Reliable cost estimates cannot be calculated without an adequate preliminary design and cost calculations from a licensed and qualified engineering firm with experience in designing and overseeing the construction of central sewer systems. Due to EU's lack of a preliminary design and cost calculations from or evaluated by a qualified engineering firm, the financial information provided by EU cannot be relied on. As a result, any rates and charge information based on EU provided information could be wildly inaccurate and should not be relied upon. Due to the lack of reliability and transparency of EU's cost estimates and are not based on valid engineering projections, I strongly recommend that EU's application must be denied or rejected.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Robert Der

Mobile telephone numbers:

USA: +1-630-373-7886

China: +86-136-6196-0494

Email: robert.der.der@gmail.com
or derro@yahoo.com

Lisa Smith

From: Jamkelly5 <jamkelly5@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 4:06 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket#20200226-SU

Commissioners,

I am writing in regards to the proposed central sewer system application by Environmental Utilities (EU). We are seasonal residents and our home is fairly new. This will be our third winter on Palm Island. I'm sure you are aware of the cost of a new septic system for an individual home -not a small price. We followed all the rules and regulations requested by the state and county. Our system is properly maintained by a licensed septic contractor who is recognized by the state and county. Now you're saying that all of the time and money we've invested is for nothing? I failed to see how a central sewer line would benefit us and feel we are being blindsided by another huge unnecessary cost for a system we don't want or need.

Also the lack of information regarding the finances of EU is concerning. And the huge change in their estimated hook up cost is troubling. Does this company, which runs a water treatment plant, not a septic company, have the expertise to take on a project of this magnitude? There are so many unknowns with EU that are very concerning.

Also, there have been no environmental concerns regarding the existing septic systems on Palm Island, and this proposed line is not something the residents want or need.

Palm Island is a special place. The residents truly care about the beautiful environment in which they live, and the animals they share it with. The disruption the construction of a sewer line would cause could be devastating to some of those animals – particularly the gopher tortoise, a protected species. It will also be disruptive to the lives of the residents, who rely on small roads and a car ferry to access the mainland. Sharing that ferry and those roads with construction crews and equipment will be problematic.

We urge you to look at the facts, and listen to the voices of the residents on the island whose lives will be impacted, and deny EU a permit.

Thank You,

Jim & Lori Kelly
189 N. Gulf Blvd.
651-260-7449

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

Lisa Smith

From: Dona Cabela <cdjean20@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 3:44 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU
Attachments: Letter to PSC against island sewer.docx

Hello:

Please review my attached letter. This is in regards to my formal request to deny the application for the original certificate of authorization for the proposed central sewer system.

Thank you
Respectfully
Chaz & Dona Cabela

Lisa Smith

From: nelsondot@earthlink.net
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 2:30 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket # 20200226-us

Dear Clerk and Commissioner's,

This is Mary Dorothy Kirkland and I am a homeowner within the proposed service area on Little Gasparilla Island. I am formally requesting that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Below are some concerns and impacts to us as owners:

Average Residential Bill: \$178.78, which is roughly twice the amount that a ratepayer on the mainland in Rotonda pays per month for water and wastewater combined. Note that the average cost to EU per customer per month is \$97.18.

Electric: the system pump requires a separate electric panel, installed by a licensed electrician at the expense of the owner. More electric: If the owner has maxed out their main electric grid with pool equipment or other large-draw items, the panel will need an expensive upgrade to accommodate the new panel.

Generator: the grinder pump has a limited capacity (60 gal) and in the event of a power outage will be unable to function for long. Homeowners will need a generator to keep the system running to avoid sewage back-up. Tree removal: Landscaping and hardscaping around the septic area will need to be cleared at the expense of the homeowner to gain access to crush & fill the septic tank. No pay-over-time plan: Ratepayers may need to take loans to cover the cost of connection Mandatory Hook-up: Charlotte County regulations require all homes to connect to central water and wastewater within 1 year of availability. No grandfathering of septic systems: regardless of age or condition.

I am concerned about financial hardship and ability as well as fair and equitable rates and charges.

Thank you for your attention to this serious issue.

Mary Dorothy Kirkland

Lisa Smith

From: Nelson Kirkland <nelson@centralfloridamediagroup.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 2:17 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Cc: Nelson & Dot Kirkland
Subject: Little Gasparilla Sewer

I own a house on Little Gasparilla Island and I would like to voice my objection to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the EU Application for Original Certificate of Authorization.

1. I question the need for the service.
2. I question the applicants financial ability to install and sustain, I mean shouldn't this be a government project if it's so vital?
3. Has the applicant any technical expertise or could the commission be responsible for a major environmental catastrophe if the applicant messes up.
4. The rates that have been tossed around for homeowners are ridiculous.

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Best regards,
R . Nelson Kirkland
9768 Little Gasparilla Island

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Lisa Smith

From: Candyce Cohen <candycecohen@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 2:10 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU
Attachments: ATT00001.htm; ATT00002.htm; ATT00003.htm; ATT00004.htm; ATT00005.htm; ATT00006.htm; ATT00007.htm; PSC Letter Docket #20200226-SU .pdf; ATT00008.htm

Distinguished commissioners LaRosa, Clark, Passidomo and Clerk of the Commission,

Good morning. I have been a homeowner on Don Pedro Island in Charlotte County since 1990, and a full-time resident since 1995. I am formally requesting the Public Service Commission DENY Environmental Utilities LLC's (EU's) application for wastewater service for the following reasons:

1. NEED FOR SERVICE

Water quality testing in and around Lemon Bay and northern Charlotte Harbor has not established the need to replace septic systems with a central sewer system. To address this concern, EU emailed interested parties information from a Florida Atlantic University study on septic system impact on the "urbanized Indian River Lagoon" area on the east/Atlantic coast of Florida. EU has also referenced via email that the islands to the north (in Sarasota County) and to the south (in Lee County) are on central sewer.

- The population density from Indian River and surrounding coastal counties are significantly greater running from 20% to 85% greater population density than Charlotte County.
- I also note the Indian River Lagoon is listed as the waterway with the 4th highest volume of untreated sewage spills in the state from Florida DEP analysis spanning 2009 – 2018, and therefore should not be conflated with Lemon Bay and Charlotte Harbor.
- As Mr. Boyer has also communicated the islands north and south have central sewer, to be clear both those counties have 280% greater population density than Charlotte County.
- Don Pedro, Knight and Little Gasparilla Island differs significantly from our neighbors on the east coast. Besides population density referenced above, the islands do not support high-rise/multifamily nor commercial development (beyond a single resort on the north end). Extensive commercial development is not zoned for and not contributing to the need for central sewer. In fact, our zoning ensures this will not change.
- Anecdotally, we have seen on other islands up and down the coast, when sewer is installed developers "lobby" county and city commissions to alter zoning to increase development which would fundamentally change the nature of the islands and the Florida native environment we have today.

Given these concerns, I request EU's application be DENIED.

2. INCREASED RISK OF SEWAGE SPILLS DUE TO POWER INTERRUPTIONS (vs AGEING INFRASTRUCTURE)

While future local water quality studies may one day show some nutrient leakage from septic tanks, central sewer adds risk for environmental nightmares beyond an individual home's septic tank collapsing here and there. Checking Florida headlines and Florida DEP Public Notice of Pollution (PNP) tracking of sewage and wastewater spills[1] over the past few years[2]

In 2019, the Department of Environmental Protection reported **2,779 wastewater spills in Florida**, compared with **1,282 reported spills in 2007**. There was a large jump in 2017, the year of **Hurricane Irma**, of a reported **3,452 wastewater spills**. ... Pathogens in wastewater are known to cause lung and intestinal infections.



<https://projects.wuft.org/humanhazard/major-spills-fro...>

<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/2021/12/16>

Thousands of gallons of raw sewage spilled in Titusville, Palm ...

Dec 16, 2021 – Thousands of gallons of raw **sewage** leaked in Titusville, Palm Bay ... according to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

<https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-pinellas>

At least 1,300 gallons of sewage leaks into St. Pete waters

Jul 20, 2021 – This is also not the only **wastewater leak** that has happened recently around the Tampa Bay area. The Florida Department of Environmental ...

Major spills from Florida's sewage treatment plants are on the ...

Aging infrastructure and storms contribute to massive spills

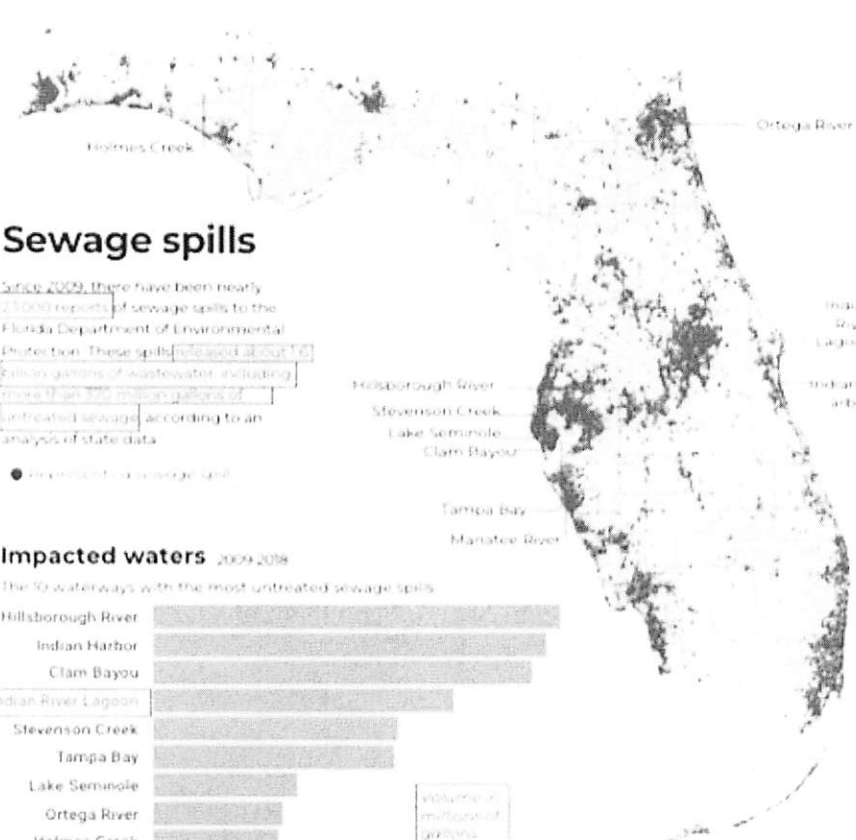
BY JOSH SALMAN, JENNIFER BORRESEN, DAPHNE CHEN
AND DAK LE / GATEHOUSE MEDIA

, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

More than 900,000 gallons of raw sewage flowed into Sarasota Bay after a violent December storm forced open a city pipe.

Summer rain in Daytona Beach and equipment failure in Jacksonville each prompted more than a quarter-million gallons of human waste to spill from sewers last year.

In Boca Raton, a pressurized pipe gushed out nearly 50,000 gallons of untreated wastewater, while another 55,000 gallons spewed from a DeFuniak Springs manhole into nearby Bruce Creek.



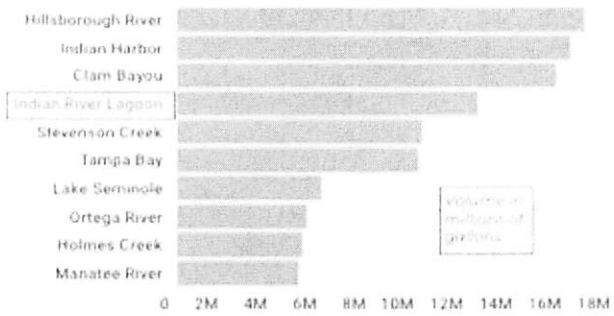
Sewage spills

Since 2009, there have been nearly 25,000 reports of sewage spills to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. These spills released about 1.5 billion gallons of wastewater, including more than 100 million gallons of untreated sewage, according to an analysis of state data.

● Represents a sewage spill

Impacted waters 2009-2018

The 10 waterways with the most untreated sewage spills



SOURCE: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

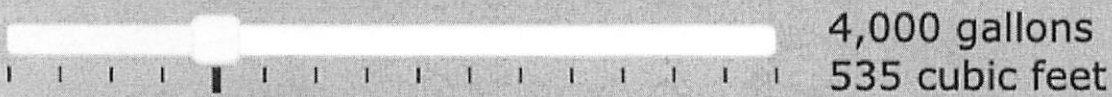
Rates Comparison

Characteristics

Links

Select residential bill and monthly consumption amount

Water Bill Sewer Bill Water + Sewer Bill



Monthly Sewer Bill: \$54.89

Select comparison group:

Comparing to **all utilities in survey**



218 rate structures compared

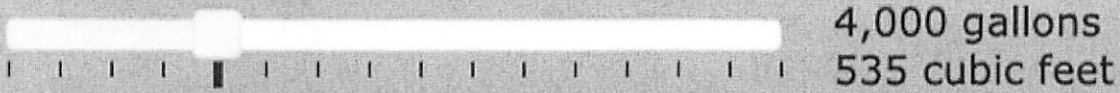
Rates Comparison

Characteristics

Links

Select residential bill and monthly consumption amount

Water Bill Sewer Bill Water + Sewer Bill



Monthly Sewer Bill: \$55.18

Select comparison group: All Utilities

Comparing to **all utilities in survey**



218 rate structures compared

Candace Cohen

Lisa Smith

From: terymiklos@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 1:27 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: docket #20200226-SU

Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

I am Terry Miklos property owner of 40 N. Gulf Blvd. on Palm Island in Placida, FL. This island is unique in that it is one of the few islands left with no bridge access. Residents may gain access to the island by boat or by car ferry. Once on island most vehicles are golf cart

I am formally requesting that PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service for the following reasons:

1. EU has absolutely no experience in this field.
2. As a result of this lack of experience EU has not been able to give us an accurate cost analysis break down of cost per owner or per unit.
3. As a result of this lack of experience EU has given a monthly estimate service fee of 178.78 per month which is almost twice as much as anyone on the mainland with no limit on any increases.
4. As a result of this lack of experience EU is going to tear up our streets and our island to an extent that would destroy the island and island life for an unspecified amount of time. Construction would disrupt ferry access by residents significantly resulting in hindering access to our homes day and night for an unspecified amount of time. In addition, construction will destroy our custom landscaping leaving homeowners to restore their landscaping to its prior condition at homeowners expense.
5. As a result of EU's lack of experience and potential funding EU is requiring all homeowners to hook up within a year at a significant estimated cost that cannot be financed making homeowners on fixed incomes unable to meet the requirement.
6. As a result of this lack of experience if the commission allows EU to lay large sewage pipes across the ICW it could result in an environmental disaster in the event they were to fail due to this lack of experience.
7. As a result of this lack of experience there is a huge concern as to who is overseeing this contract. Agencies such as County, DEP, or Army Corp are experienced, supervised, pull permits and are under a performance bond. What recourse do we the homeowners have for cost overruns or failure in the event they can't perform?
8. As a result of EU's lack of experience homeowners have not received any information in the event of a hurricane or power outage which could cause significant sewage backup into the system resulting in a sewage spill.
9. As the result of EU's lack of experience we have received no information outlining service and maintenance of the system.
10. As a result of EU's lack of experience they have not taken into consideration new, upgraded and well maintained septic systems installed at a significant expense. In addition, they have not provided information or cost analysis for the MANDATORY removal of these septic systems at the owners expense.

11. As a result of EU's lack of experience EU will claim ownership for an easement on my property without permission, compensation, or going through proper channels.

For all the reasons stated above EU is clearly not qualified to perform such a project and should not be considered for approval. I am formally requesting that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Respectfully,

Terry Miklos

terymiklos@aol.com

Lisa Smith

From: Dale Novak <dnovak@novakcreative.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 1:21 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU / Environmental Utilities Proposed Sewer

January 23, 2022

Florida Public Service Commission
LaRosa, Clark, Passidomo
Clerk of the Commission

Re: Docket #20200226-SU / Environmental Utilities Proposed Sewer

Dear Commissioners:

As I am sure you are aware, the barrier islands known as Don Pedro, Palm Island, Knight Island & Little Gasparilla, and the homeowners thereof, are in the process of being subjected to a central sewer system as proposed by Jack Boyer of Environmental Utilities (EU).

As a property and homeowner on Don Pedro Island, we are without reservation opposed to this proposal as detailed below.

1) There is absolutely no “environmental” need for the system. Most of the septic systems on the island have been updated and further, most are tested yearly to meet environmental standards (both state and county). There has also been numerous new homes built on the islands in the last several years. Those new homes have met or exceeded the requirements for an environmentally efficient waste disposal system.

2) Our water quality has NOT been effected by the septic systems on the islands. The primary driver of the pollution and water issues is flowing down the Caloosahatchee river via releases from Lake Okeechobee. This is well documented by Captains for Clean Water, an environmental group based in Fort Myers — of which we are Members.

3) The EU has no experience — and no track record for providing sewer service. How it is possible for a company to have no experience in a project of this scale and complexity, and be considered and approved to provide this service is beyond words. It seems so immensely illogical that it's akin to handing the controls of a 747 full of passengers to a person with no flying experience. It is absolutely absurd. Have the Commissioners considered the possible outcomes, or possible solutions, if the EU goes bankrupt during this process, or fails to meet any memorable timetable? Or, if the systems they are proposing simply fail to work? What happens if the system fails and dumps millions of gallons of waste water into our waterways? Will the EU be able to financially absorb and correct a failure of that magnitude — or will they just pass the cost on the the property owners? What about storm damage? Will the EU be able to restore service in a timely manner entirely at their

cost — or once again, is their plan to pass on those expenses to the property owners? It appears that the entire EU proposal is based on passing ALL OF THE COSTS on to the property owners. Imagine FPL doing that after every storm or failure of the electrical grid.

4) The EU has shown zero accountability to demonstrate their ability to reasonably finance their proposal other than to suggest that all the costs will be burdened to the property owners. It is absolutely implausible to think that every property owner on the barrier islands can simply write checks for unknown amounts in perpetuity. The response by the EU to this complexity thus far is for the property owner to simply “get a loan” to pay for it. Again, this is beyond any sort of logical explanation. We don’t own a money printing press.

5) Some homes have been recently built. The investment cost to install brand new septic systems could easily range from \$25,000 to \$50,000. These homes and builders have followed every rule and procedure, including permitting, to install these systems. Why does the Charlotte County continue to allow homes to be built, and for septic/drain fields to be added, if they are environmentally defective? It is incredibly irrational to think that a recently built home, or an older home with a brand new system installed, that was properly permitted, would now be asked to light a match to the money they spent on that system without compensation by the EU or County to remove it. Imagine if you purchased a brand new gasoline powered car for \$50,000 and were now being “dictated to” by Charlotte County and a private company that you must purchase an electric car — and your brand new car was to be crushed and sold for scrap. Does that sound reasonable and fair? That is exactly what’s happening here.

6) The EU has no technical expertise in the venture. Zero. This is a disaster just waiting to happen and Charlotte County will be on the hook for the accountability of their actions in this matter when the entire process starts to unravel and fail. The EU will NOT be able to recover financially from a mass failure of the system without passing on ALL of the costs to the property owners. This is a brand new “for profit” venture with no guardrails whatsoever.

7) The EU has not demonstrated or provided any forecast of service costs other to suggest some canyon size ranges of proposed costs. “We don’t know what it will cost yet” seems to be the answer — which is no answer of course. Plus, there is the connection cost which, again, seems to be a wide range from about \$10,000 to \$30,000 depending on the complexity. There’s also the question of property rights with no compensation for the homeowner and the intrusion to their property. The fact that this unproven system, by a start-up company with no experience, will dictate that every homeowner be required to hook up to the system seems unconstitutional to me — given that it’s a private company.

8) There seems to be a mandate that would also require every homeowner to install a back-up generator system to be able to prevent a back-up of the system in the event of a power interruption ... which happens often on the island. Again, the fact that a private company will “force” me to install a very expensive generator system just to ensure that their private system doesn’t fail is just piling on the absurdity. Does any of this seem logical — to anyone?

We love these barrier islands. It’s a unique lifestyle for sure. We understand that living out here is a personal choice. I think that the vast majority of property owners are uniquely in sync with our sensitive environment. We want what’s best for our waters, which we all enjoy. For us, we just don’t see the EU proposal to be based on any scientific fact, or more importantly, that they have zero experience in building or operating a sewer utility company. We all know what this entire proposal is actually about — the EU making money as a private company. It’s not about helping our waterways or environment. It’s about profit. It always is.

We ask, respectfully, that the State consider the property owners who choose to live on the islands, have a voice in this matter. In fact, we demand it. As such, we ask that the PSC deny the EU’s application for central

wastewater service.

Regards,

Dale & Julie Novak
611 Bocilla Drive
Don Pedro Island
920.664.1088

Lisa Smith

From: Brad Roberts <bradr@classiccoatings.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 12:53 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

January 23, 2022

Dear Commissioner LaRosa,

My name is Brad Roberts and I am a resident at 450 S. Gulf Blvd in Placida Florida. We live on Don Pedro Island and are strongly opposed to allowing EU to proceed with the installation of sewers on our island. Not that we are opposed to sewers but we are opposed to EU and their owner to manage a project of this size given his lack of experience in this field.

It is my opinion that this is a job that the county should be doing if it needs to be done. The county has people on staff that have much more experience in this area than anyone at EU. Given Mr. Boyars record with the Little Gasparilla Water Company, I find it hard to believe that the county is even considering EU to apply for the Certificate of Authorization.

Please record my opposition to this matter and encourage you to vote down this Certificate of Authorization for EU.

Brad Roberts

*450 S. Gulf Blvd
Placida Florida 33916*

Cell: 920-912-6906

Lisa Smith

From: Gregory A. Hearing <Gregory.Hearing@gray-robinson.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 12:45 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU
Importance: High

My name is Greg Hearing. I am a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI). I am writing to express my strong opposition to the EU's application for wastewater service covering LGI and other local barrier islands.

LGI is a unique part of what little is left of old Florida. There are no roads, no commercial operations and no tourism on the LGI. It is important to keep LGI that way for generations to come. The EU's application would disturb the natural habitat of the island and start it down the inevitable road to commercialization. We islanders love the island and take very good care to preserve it, including annually servicing and inspecting our septic tanks. The County charges us a fee for our tanks and makes sure they are inspected and safe for the environment annually. In fact, we have yet to see any water quality study of LGI area water which indicates that we are harming the environment. We are more concerned that a subaqueous sewer pipe system crossing the bay from LGI to the mainland poses a much more significant threat to the area water quality than our septic tanks. One serious spill by a subaqueous pipe system will ruin the bay. Hundreds of small leaks along the pipeline would do the same and may not even be discoverable.

We believe the EU is only arguing that our septic tanks harm the environment for its own clear economic advantage. The EU, which didn't win the right to provide wastewater service to LGI by a public bid process, stands to make a lot of money off the islanders if its application is approved. The hookup fee alone will be devastating to the islanders not to mention that the monthly fee will be more than twice what it is on the mainland in Placida for water and wastewater combined. Moreover, islanders would have to use their own electric to run the system and many homes may not have the capacity to do so bringing the cost up for such islanders even more. We believe that the EU doesn't have the experience or the economic stamina to take on what is a classic local government function. If we have to go to a sewer system, the County should install and maintain it rather than letting an inexperienced private entity that is way in over its head financially and technically attempt to do it. The County would likely have to come in after the fact and clean up the mess. It is my understanding that the EU has never built out and/or run a sewer system. In contrast, the County is an expert at it. So, if LGI has to go to a sewer system due to environmental concerns, then the County should

install and operate it. That way, it will be handled well and be financially manageable for island residents.

Thank you in advance for your time and thoughtful attention to this important island issue.

Respectfully,

Greg Hearing
9706 LGI
Placida, Fl. 33946
813-928-1334

Gregory A. Hearing

Shareholder

Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law,
Education Law and Civil Trial by The Florida Bar

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F 813-273-5145



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Lisa Smith

From: Wayne Ator <wator@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 12:30 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Cc: Cassie Ator
Subject: Docket# 20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

As a 40 year resident on Palm Island I am vehemently opposed to EU proposal. We do not have a sewage problem on this island. It seems inconceivable to me that this County would approve a fly by night proposal with no ideas of costs by someone who has no expertise! Even more so the person to whom he will sell this contract!

This will affect many residents who make up most of the highest tax base in our county. There is no bonding and therefore no assurance the job could ever be completed leaving us literally high and dry.

Due to FPL frequent interruptions in power we are also at the mercy of an electric pump in times of outage which could result in major backups throughout the island.

PSC must deny the EUs application for wastewater service. You are acting very irresponsibly in the trust which we placed in you when we voted!

Sincerely Wayne S. , Cassie A. Ator

wator@comcast.net

390 North Gulf Blvd, Palm Island

(POBox 3147, Placida, FL 33946

Sent from my iPhone

Lisa Smith

From: Pete Hosmer <petehosmer@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 12:00 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Re. Docket#20200226-SU

My name is Pete Hosmer and I am the property owner of Lot #14 on Don Pedro Island for over 47 years.

I am writing to you today in opposition to the proposed EU central sewer system. Specifically, I do not feel there is a need for this service since everything on the Island is working perfectly. Also, I am concerned about the technical expertise of the EU. This is not a project for some individual company with little experience. If it is deemed necessary, then it should be a county project.

I am also concerned about the financial responsibility of EU and all of the associated charges and rates.

So, I am objecting to this proposal and respectfully ask you to deny the Application for Original Certification of Authorization.

Thank you,
Pete Hosmer
petehosmer@comcast.net

Lisa Smith

From: Vicki Elsberry <vickielsberry@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 11:56 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa; vickielsberry@gmail.com
Subject: Little Gasparilla sewer proposal

I am a property owner on Little Gasparilla Island. The new sewer requirements is totally Unacceptable. There is no fairness of rates with the rest of the county. The logistics of even accomplishing this beyond the scope and ability of the county system. No clear cost to the homeowner or ability to pay over time has been addressed. We pay enormous property taxes already without receiving any services. Trash collection for one. How about considering a place to park our vehicles when visiting our island Instead of charging us for a service we don't need. We regularly lose power for extended periods of time. I don't believe there is an environmental threat from the island septic since the sand is a great filtering system and most properties are not full time residence. What about big sugar dumping into Charlotte Harbor. What government entity is getting a kick back from this project ? We deserve a well thought out workable system before we commit to a very expensive Solution to a non-problem. Sincerely and Respectively submitted,
Vicki Elsberry

Sent from my iPad

Lisa Smith

From: Jack Steen <turnersteen@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 11:44 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Records Clerk
Subject: #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners LaRosa, Passidomo, Clark and Clerk of the PSC

I have been a property owner for 31 years on Don Pedro Island. I object to the County granting an application for a wastewater license to Environmental Utilities LLC.

This application is on the agenda for February 8, 2022- #20200226-SU

I am not objecting to the sewer per se. If there is a need due to environmental issues I would be in favor of a sewers system to replace our septic tanks. My concerns stem from the lack of experience and financial background of the applicant in question.

If there are studies that show a need for a system, I would be in favor of a county run utility with ongoing maintenance and service with the best interest of the homeowners, county and environment at the forefront of your decision making.

Please deny this request.

Thank you,

Lisa Smith

From: Judy Galloway <judary54@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 8:58 AM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Commisisioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us;
Commissioner.Passimodo@psc.state.fl.us
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

I am a homeowner on Don Pedro Island in Charlotte County. I am writing to **formally request that the PSC deny** EU's application for wastewater service based on the following concerns:

- 1) No need for service has been determined based on environmental impact. **No water testing has been done** on our island to determine that septic tanks are contributing to water pollution. I object to the destruction of natural habitats on our island when no proof has been established that our islands water quality is comprimised.
- 2) EU (Jack Boyer) has **NO experience** in developing, installing or maintaining **any** sort of sewer system. It seems that his lack of this technical expertise would eliminate him from consideration. I do not want my property to be his "guniea pig" for learning how to do this at **MY** expense.
- 3) **The high cost of installing EU's propose system is not fair or equitable.** The proposed monthly rate is about twice as much as residents in Rotunda (on the mainland) pay for both sewer and water combined. As a homeowner I would be responsible for providing the required electrical upgrade which may be needed plus the cost of providing a generator to keep the pump running in case of power failure. I would also be responsible for paying for clearing any landscaping in order for EU to gain access to the current septic system. And there is no "pay over time" option for the hook up fee for the project. This would create a great financial hardship for me.
- 4) I object to the **lack of oversight** for this project. There is no performance bond required and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure. We would have to deal with multiple agencies in order to get problems solved. And with EU's lack of experience with installing sewer systems, there are going to be problems. The applicant has not even addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions.

The PSC is required to use this criteria in order to grant certification:

1. **NEED FOR SERVICE** (environmental impacts, development concerns)
2. **FINANCIAL ABILITY** of the applicant
3. **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE** of the applicant
4. **FAIR & EQUITABLE RATES & CHARGES**

I sincerely hope that you can see that EU (Jack Boyer) does NOT meet the criteria

Judy Galloway
Judary54@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: linda kornicki <beachbumsforever@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 6:54 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

We object to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization

Peter and Linda Kornicki
beachbumsforever@gmail.com
7277 Rum Bay Drive
Placida Florida 33946

Sent from my iPhone

Linda 📧📧📧us

Lisa Smith

From: sln5685@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 3:34 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

I currently own, along with my husband Joe, a home at 181 North Gulf Blvd. in case you are unsure where this property is, it is on Palm Island/Knight Island.

We are being handed a no win situation for homeowners. We are being told that there needs to be a sewer system on this island and it needs to be done immediately. However, there has been absolutely no evidence, information, documentation or any such hard reason for this "necessary" immediate sewer system. We as home owners have never been given documented evidence that this immediate sewer proposal has any viability. There has only been a few SUGGESTIONS of costs that have ranged from \$13,000 per household to somewhere as high as \$24,000 per household but we have basically been told, "who knows" and are now supposed to agree to this that quasi proposal. To the best of my knowledge, there has not been any site assessments, environmental impact studies, documented reason(s) for such urgent need, or proposed timing for completion. I am beginning to wonder if this proposed private system even has the approval from Charlotte County or the State of Florida. We have never had any documentation that leads me to believe that Environmental Utilities has any experience in the installation, or maintenance of any waste water system EVER. As far as I can find there is no evidence that leads me to believe that Environmental Utilities has ever done anything along these lines, yet we are asked to accept their proposal. Where is the evidence of their ability to prove that they will not start and go bankrupt, price gouge, or even complete the project that will be in 100% compliance with the sanitary codes of Charlotte County or the State of Florida. If this information does exist, it certainly has not been made easily available to the general public. There isn't even a performance bond offered as good faith to the owners of this beautiful island. Have you noticed the lack of evidence?

Then there is the nightmare that appears to be valid if there is a power outage that the proposed wastewater system would only be functional for a short period of time before we would be mired in sewage. Talk about a biohazard for all residences. What about the environmental impact of that? Personally, I am not certain how anyone would willingly submit their valuable property to an untried, apparent money grabber evidenced by a company that proposes a monthly fee of approximately \$178, which is more than Rotunda residences pay for water AND sewer. Why would anyone agree to such unreasonable terms?

Finally there is a potential expensive upgrade to electrical systems for homes, at the owners expense, plus a potential destruction of landscape and private property. There has been no evidence or information that addresses all of these concerns for me, my husband and almost every person on this island. I have heard nothing from Environmental Utilities regarding help with financial costs, especially for those who are on fixed incomes. We are not all wealthy on this island contrary to some beliefs.

Here is a summary of items that have little or no documentation or explanation:

1. Documented environmental impact statements
2. Real costs to home owners for:
 - a. Initial hook up
 - b. Damage to property
 - c. Upgrading of electrical systems

- d. Monthly cost of sewerage alone not including water costs
- e. Potential requirement for generators, also at the homeowner's expense
3. Utility easements – EU has claimed ownership of a utility easement beginning at the house and going to the point of connection on the road at the homeowners expense.
4. Destruction of nesting sites and habitats for endangered species such as gopher turtles,
5. No evidence of any plan for maintenance of lines, the system, whatever that may be, or equipment to keep the system running. Yet there is a potential of homeowners incurring outrageous monthly bills..
6. What about the potential leakage of the lines that may or may not be properly installed under the inter coastal waterway?
7. The cost to the homeowners for the destruction of a perfectly maintained and functioning septic system.
8. There is going to be an unreasonable cost to homeowners that do not live on the island full time, but will have to incur the onerous proposed cost to them.

Let me ask you, would you want to have this organization doing major sanitary work in your neighborhood? I am guessing not!

For all the reasons listed and detailed in this letter, **I am formally requesting that the PSC DENY EU's application for wastewater service.**

-
Sincerely,

-
Susan Noto
181 North Gulf Boulevard
574-315-2654
sln5685@comcast.net

Lisa Smith

From: Jaime Daniels <jldiva123@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:27 PM
To: Consumer Contact; Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; debbiedaniels1@verizon.net
Subject: Re: Docket #20200226-SU

James, Debra, and Jaime Daniels
511 18th Ave SE
Ruskin, FL 33570

January 22, 2022

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners of the Public Service Commission:

We are the Daniels Family and property owners at 9696 Little Gasparilla Island (LGI). Our family has owned our lovely home on this barrier island since 1965. Our daughter Jaime is the third generation to be raised on the island. Our ties to LGI run strong and deep. We love our island dearly, and as islanders we know the long-term environmental, and financial burdens proposed for a central sewer system by Environment Utilities (EU) are not in the best interests for our island or its residents.

Our family formally objects and requests that PSC denies Environment Utilities (EU) application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

We are formally requesting that you deny EU's application for the following reasons:

1. Uncertain Hookup Costs
2. Average Residential Bill estimated roughly double to be what a mainlander pays
3. The system pump requires a separate electrical panel that will have to be installed by a licensed electrician at the expense of the owner
4. Due to frequent loss of electricity during storms, most islanders would have to purchase a generator due to the grinder pump limiting the capacity at 60 gallons, causing the system to backup and not function properly possibly leading to overflows, leakages, and environmental damage
5. Landscaping and hardscaping will need to be cleared around septic area on the expense of owner to gain access to crush and fill existing septic tanks
6. Property Owners may need to take loans to cover the costs of connection for mandatory hookups. Charlotte Co. regulations require all homes to connect to central water and waste water within 1-year of availability
7. No grandfathering of septic systems regardless of age or condition
8. EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer and has no history with waste/sewer management
9. There is no recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure
10. Some properties have physical constraints that will complicate how EU gains access to the property without leaving the boundaries or damaging the grounds
11. This in some cases will also cause environmental damage to protected species such as the sea grape plants, gopher tortoise homes/habitats, etc.
12. We are a bridgeless barrier island with no infrastructure and no means to support a project of this magnitude
13. No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for sewer and the destruction of our current septic tanks, some of which are new.

14. The potential of a sewer spill in the Intracoastal with a subaqueous crossing is greater than the risk of one or more septic systems developing leaks and needing to be repaired or replaced.

15. Salt air takes a heavy toll on mechanical and electrical equipment on our island, and places too much responsibility on the homeowner at too great a cost.

Once again, for these reasons, and many more, we as long-time homeowners of LGI implore you to deny EU's application for the proposed central sewer system on our beautiful island.

Thank you,

The Daniels Family

Lisa Smith

From: Brad Cooke <cbcooke@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 2:10 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-S

Dear Commissioner LaRosa,

My name is Charles Cooke and I am a recent property owner on Don Pedro Island. My wife and I are Florida natives and after years of searching for a second home property fell in love with the old Florida charm of the island. I am extremely concerned about the possibility of EU providing private sewer service to the island. There are not appropriate controls in place to protect the residents of this island if this applicant is permitted to control a private sewer system. The applicant does not have experience operating such a system and also will have too much ability to pass down unknown costs to the property owners. There has not been proven scientific reason for the installation for such a system.

I urge you to deny the EU application to provide private wastewater service to our island. If this project were to move forward it would represent the PSC enabling an unnecessary infrastructure project that will ultimately be paid by property owners who have no interest in the service.

Thank you for your careful attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Charles Cooke

Cbcooke@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: Donald Scattergood <dscattergood@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 12:46 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Cc: Jacqueline Scattergood
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners -

We are writing in **support** of the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization for installation of a wastewater management system on Little Gasparilla Island by Environmental Utilities.

Our names are Donald J. Scattergood and Jacqueline C. Scattergood. We are full time residents of Little Gasparilla Island, and own two properties on the island - 9512 Don Jose Court (our residence) and 9514 Don Jose Court. My wife Jacqueline C. Scattergood and I first purchased our property in 2003, and have lived full-time on the island since 2007. We are among the longest-term full-time residents here.

Our house was completed in 2007, and as such was required to use an ATU-type septic system. The system has required continual maintenance and repair, including re-construction of the drain field in 2020 due to root encroachment. As full time residents, we are in a position to maintain the system as required.

We are the exception. The great majority of septic systems on the island have had NO maintenance since we have lived here. In fact, in discussions of the work we've done on our system, many property owners brag that they've never even had their system pumped. This is particularly concerning since, on our easement (Jose's Hideaway), a number of the houses have septic fields installed below grade. The smell during flooding is eye-watering. Many of these houses are rentals, often with large groups (10-12 people), and often when there are known issues in their septic systems.

Jack Boyer and Little Gasparilla Water Utility have been instrumental in improving quality of life here on the island. He is responsive, well trained, proactive, and provides a service that frankly makes living on the island possible. The conversion from well water / RO water to the connection to the county water system improved overall water quality, reliability and water pressure dramatically, and is a great example of the way Jack and his team continually improve service. Jack has been on the island longer than we have, and always has the best interest of the island properties at heart.

Our water is expensive here, it's true. But so is maintaining our fire department, maintaining our roads, and every other aspect of life on a bridgeless barrier island. Jack Boyer has been a good steward of our environment and our lifestyle, and we support him in the much needed conversion to a septic system.

We formally request that Environmental Utilities' application for wastewater services be APPROVED.

Below are some pictures indicative of the types of septic systems that exist on our small easement. Most of the island is worse.

Sincerely,
Donald J. Scattergood - dscattergood@gmail.com

Jacqueline C. Scattergood - teams catt@gmail.com
9512 Don Jose Court, Little Gasparilla Island
PO Box 3760
Placida, FL 33946

Lisa Smith

From: pbholmes0@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 12:25 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket # 20200226 -SU

Gentlemen:

I, Barbara Holmes, have been a full time resident of Little Gasparilla Island for the past twenty seven years. My property is located at 9496 Alborado. I formally object to the certification for this proposed sewer. I request that the PSC deny EU's application for waste water treatment on LGI.

1. Duty of county to provide wastewater service if needed and that need has not been determined
2. Homeowner would own grinder\$\$\$ which lasts approximately 5 years
Other significant expenses involved with grinder defrayed to homeowner
County would use vacuum system
3. Sewage backup extremely likely with grinder system due to frequent power outages
Hurricanes/tropical storms could cause weeks of power outages
Generators expensive and unreliable
4. No pro rating on connection fees!!!
Some homeowners forced to sell or put lien on property
5. Potential of sewer pipes being broken a serious threat
No roads, only sandy golf cart paths where heavy construction equipment and workmens' motorized vehicles are prevalent
6. Cost of water from EU higher than almost anywhere else in Florida
(over \$110 per month)
7. EU wastewater service estimated at \$178.78 per month
Rotonda pays roughly half that for both water and wastewater service!!!

Respectfully,

Barbara Holmes
pbholmes0@gmail.com

Sent from Mail for Windows

Lisa Smith

From: pbholmes0@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 10:07 AM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Gentlemen:

I, Paul Holmes, have been a full time resident of Little Gasparilla Island for the past twenty seven years. My property is located at 9496 Alborado. I formally object to the certification for this proposed sewer. I request that the PSC deny EU's application for waste water treatment on LGI.

Jack Boyer has never installed a sewer system and should not start with one as complicated as a bridgeless barrier island. The lack of rightaways, regular power outages, no roads to follow, hurricanes, etc. would present challenges to an experienced sewer operator and should not be attempted by a neophyte. If Charlotte County wants a sewer system out here, they should take responsibility for it as they have in most of the rest of the County.

I would strongly urge y'all to visit our little section of "old Florida" and see what I mean. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Paul Holmes

Sent from Mail for Windows

Lisa Smith

From: nina stokes <ninadv3399@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:21 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Kit Kat; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Chairman Fay
Subject: Docket# 20200226

January, 21, 2022

Clerk of the Commission
Commissioner LaRosa
Commissioner Clark
Commissioner Passidomo
Commissioner Graham
Commissioner Fay

Dear Commissioners,

We have owned our home on Little Gasparilla Island at 8892 Gulf St. since 1999. We love and cherish our beautiful piece of paradise, and our grandchildren love fishing off our dock in the beautiful bay waters. We are writing to express our concern about Environmental Utilities, the private, start up inexperienced company that is seeking a wastewater certificate from the Commission. We are very thankful for your time reading and your close attention to all the ongoing concerns of hundreds of homeowners about EU's application. We are formally requesting that you deny this application for so many reasons as follows.

First, let me say that it is my understanding that Charlotte County was not going to address sewer issues on our barrier island until 2029 if then. There were financial reasons including having to take over other private companies that had failed to complete projects. If sewers are needed, Charlotte County should be the one in charge.

We have so many questions about EU's ability to undertake a project of this magnitude, of their financial ability, their management ability, their maintenance ability, their educational and technical ability and their ETHICS!

To begin, As far as need for service, there has not been water quality testing done by EU to show a need for sewer service. Bay waters in the Charlotte County watershed are tested from private docks at sunrise every month for the DEP (52 volunteers at 52 sites) and calibrated and transported to the mainland to be analyzed. if there were any significant problems they would have been published and made known to the public. As the Distinguished Professor from the University of South Florida, Dr. Robert Weisberg, testified in written material submitted to the Commission on 11/23/21, there is no evidence that red tide is caused by septic as Mr. Boyer claims. He says, I'm after a detailed explanation of the causes of Redtide, "Environmental Utilities cites no scientific support for the proposition that the on site septic tanks exacerbate red tide and algae outbreaks on the barrier island region of concern". He further notes " It is noted that EU's application for sewer lines and delivery is to a Charlotte County connection versus a complete sewer system. Thus a failure of the county system could be exacerbated by the flow from EU further burdening the county system prior to upgrading which may be counter productive with respect to the Sewer Master Plan. "

Looking at environmental concerns involved with EU's project, all the large equipment, and digging which will be involved in the installation are cause for concern for our endangered gopher tortoises , burrowing owls plus the ospreys and our magnificent eagles which nest in our pines. We've seen no mention of needed permits for dealing with these.

A large number of homeowners on LGI are just becoming aware of EU's request and the implications of it being granted. There has been so much secrecy on finances (EU submitted Scores of documents asking for confidentiality) and misinformation on need for service. EU has never installed a sewer system. The principals , own Little Gasparilla water company and there has been so much controversy about that company, as I'll note later.

EU has two employees, Mr. and Mrs. Boyer and reportedly their son who is said to be taking "sewer classes". Questions are where is EU's place of business other than their home? Where would all necessary equipment to do the project be stored? What are the true facts about finances? There is no contract and no single point of general oversight. Of Great importance is Why is there no performance bond? EU Is an LLC and in case of an environmental spill there is no available public help? Homeowners will have no recourse if there are cost overruns (which is Very possible considering everything has to be barged to the island and the barge moves when the operator feels like it). All cost overruns will be passed on the homeowners.,

We were at first told the cost could be \$20,000 per homeowner, with maybe some grants possible , and that if we protested, we'd pay even more! Now it appears the estimated cost is \$11,928 hook up fee, \$55.32 per 10000 gallons, \$1,299.85 installation fee, \$30 installation connection fee and a Whopping cost of \$ 201.04 PER MONTH! In addition it says "initial deposit should be equal to average charge for wastewater for two months based on approved final rates". Is that \$ 402.08? No mention of grants to help pay costs now and no provision to pay over time. Many homeowners will have to secure loans to pay these costs.

Homeowners may have to have a new electric panel to handle the new equipment needed. In the event of power outages, which happens Very often, (the last one was 19 hours a couple weeks ago but some have been a few days) generators will be needed to keep the system running to avoid sewage back ups. Can you imagine the smell, noise, pollution in addition to the fuel needed to run them? If a hurricane came and there was no power for days, it would be a disaster! EU offers no plans for this kind of emergency or for possible sewage spills in the intercostal waterway.

Finally, in addressing technical ability, and questioning if it is in the best interest of the public for EU to be granted this certificate, ethics and honesty need to be looked at. I'm sure you have read and are aware of the documented dishonesty of the owner of EU. He illegally took, stole, water from Palm Island State Park and ran it to his water company on Little Gasparilla Island, a felony for which he was fined. Then more controversy for the water company when he was caught for performing plumbing work without a license or permit and for then connecting homes to his water without a permit. Some work had to be redone due to use of wrong equipment. He was fined for three homes but admitted to a group of homeowners (myself included) and two Charlotte County water employees that he had hooked up 100 ! In addition, he didn't pay all required "tap in" fees in a timely manner until called out by Charlotte County. There were times when the water system broke down for various reasons and customers were not informed of the necessity to boil water, a health and safety hazard. Property taxes on his water facility were in arrears several years and certificates bought. With all Mr. Boyer's history, It is shocking that Charlotte County Commissioners gave the right to him to apply for the wastewater certificate. The only difference is that he now works under a different company name.

Thank you again for reading our input and concerns. We trust you will see the need to deny Environmental Utilities' application as there are so many questions about the company.
Sincerely,

Kathleen and Roy Stokes

Sent from Mail for Windows

Lisa Smith

From: Bryan D & Debra S Fredrick <bdfredrick@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:08 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket # 20200226-SU

I, Bryan D Fredrick own the home at 111 S Gulf Blvd, Placida, FL, on Don Pedro Island. I understand that you will be making a decision regarding possible approval for a private sewer system on our Island, by "Environmental Utility". I STRONGLY advise you to DENY the Application.

We all have our septic systems inspected and approved periodically, and have repairs/improvements done as needed - If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

There is no evidence that our properly functioning septic systems are detrimental to our surrounding waters. We live here - we swim, fish and boat in our surrounding waters. I do believe that any degradation of our waters is primarily caused by high-nutrient discharges from Lake Okeechobee.

It is my understanding that "Environmental Utility" is trying to convince you that we have an environmental emergency due to our polluting septic systems, so cannot wait to have Charlotte County install any central sewer system. This reasoning is fallacious.

"Environmental Utility" has no prior experience in installing or operating a central sewer system.

I understand that "Environmental Utility" is a private, FOR PROFIT business. I do not want to let inexperienced people to become multi-millionaires at my expense. I know that we are in the queue for Charlotte County to install a central sewer system here on Don Pedro Island. Why can't we wait for an experienced, non-profit entity handle our sewage ?? We would pay their fees as part of our property taxes, like most Floridians.

In conclusion, PLEASE DENY "Environmental Utility's" application for our wastewater service.

Thank you - Bryan D Fredrick bdfredrick@embarqmail.com 111 S Gulf Blvd, Don Pedro Island

Lisa Smith

From: Tyler Erickson <Tyler@midlandinfosys.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:42 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: FW: Docket #20200226-SU

As a homeowner on the island please deny EU's application for wastewater service

The main reason is because EU is not a contractor that has ever won a bid to install sewer anywhere. Palm Island also called Don Pedro-Knight Island is a barrier Island with no bridge access, That would make it even more complicated for a company who has no experience.

There are also concerns about EU's owner. Has anyone done a background check?

Thanks!

Tyler Erickson
Cell: 612-719-6678
111 N Gulf Blvd and 251 Bocilla Drive

Lisa Smith

From: Laurie Barclay <it000016@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:53 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

From Laurie Barclay, MD, property owner on Don Pedro Island (Colony Don Pedro unit #8; 50 S Gulf Blvd.)

I hereby formally request that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service, based on the arguments in opposition to the proposed central sewer as listed below.

As a property owner on Don Pedro Island for more than 30 years, I firmly believe that it is a unique treasure, reflecting unspoiled Florida at its finest. It is a pristine environment and beautiful, idyllic location bringing much needed peace and restoration to our hectic, troubled world.

In these 30 years, I have never had issues with my current septic system, nor has any water quality testing indicated a need for sewer. The proposed central sewer would be extremely disruptive to our environment and way of life. The noise and disturbance of sand and soil by installing the proposed system would be devastating to wildlife, human residents and visitors, and the natural beauty of our beloved island. Installing and maintaining a sewer system may destroy the natural habitat and interfere with the gopher tortoise and other endangered native species.

Sewage spill in the Intracoastal could be devastating to fish and sea turtles, as well as to human life by encouraging red tide and potential infection from contact with coliform bacteria in the water: The risk of a central sewer leak with a subaqueous crossing exceeds the risk of one or more septic systems developing leaks.

I am also extremely concerned regarding the proposed costs of wastewater service. I rent out my property when possible and enjoy it myself the rest of the time. As a retired senior, the costs of island living are substantial already, and the proposed system would inflict an unnecessary financial burden of upfront and ongoing costs.

The extent of this burden is uncertain, with estimated connection fees ranging from \$13K to \$20K; the requirement of installing an electrical panel at my expense; the need to buy and maintain a generator to avoid sewage back-up during power outages; removal of trees, landscaping and hardscaping around the septic area at my expense; and monthly fees in the range of \$200, or approximately twice the amount paid on the nearby mainland for water and wastewater combined, and far exceeding my current sewage-related expenses.

As the grinder pump has a limited capacity of 60 gallons, and will be unable to function for long if there is a power outage, each property would need a generator to keep the system running and avoid sewage back-up. Again, more unnecessary expense, inconvenience, noise, storage, and potential fire and environmental hazard of storing gas.

To gain access to crush and fill the septic tank, landscaping, trees and structures around the septic area would have to be cleared at my expense, which would disrupt the environment and wildlife, disfigure my property, and take away useable outdoor recreational and parking space.

In any event, these are additional expenses I cannot afford, at no benefit whatsoever to me, my renters, or my neighbors. In fact, the only beneficiary of the proposed sewer system is EU itself. Even worse, there is no pay-over-time plan, so that a loan (and associated interest and negative impact on credit rating) could be needed to cover connection cost.

The pandemic has created enough economic and other disruption to our way of life, and imposing the expenses of a sewer system could put me over the edge of having to give up island living that I so dearly love.

No renters want to have their time away spoiled by sewer system installation, with the associated noise, inconvenience, and increased local and barge traffic, nor do I. Increased traffic, and delays waiting to get on the barge to access or leave the island could continue for years and would further detract from the joys and peace of island living. The proposed system would therefore negatively impact Florida tourism and hospitality industries on the island and nearby mainland.

In addition, I view the EU's proposal for a sewer system as offensive, as it is an infringement of my personal rights and my rights as a property owner. The septic system in current use works perfectly well, and I cannot understand why I should be forced to change it, as said change would be harmful to me for reasons expressed herein.

Unfortunately, however, should the sewer system proposal be approved, connection would be mandatory. Charlotte County regulations require all homes to connect to central water and wastewater within 1 year of availability, with no grandfathering of septic systems, regardless of age or condition.

As EU has claimed ownership of a utility easement going from the sewer equipment near the house to the connection in the road, without compensation to homeowners, their proposed system would lower property values at no benefit to us.

The proposed sewer system has no accountability, as EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install the sewer, and there is no "contract," no single point of general oversight, no performance bond required, and no single point of recourse for homeowners should there be cost overruns or project failure. Furthermore, EU has not addressed how the sewer would be serviced if it fails during storms, which are frequent on tropical islands.

Another concern of island living is the corrosive effect of salt air on mechanical and electrical equipment, resulting in the need for frequent replacement of sewer components, again at the expense of the homeowner.

Based on the arguments above, I hereby formally request that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service. These arguments include, but are not limited to, negative impacts on the environment, island living, Florida tourism and hospitality industries, property rights, and homeowner expenses. Please do not destroy our beautiful island and the oasis of tranquility it provides.

Sincerely,

Laurie Barclay, MD

lt000016@hotmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: Stevenson <webstevenson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:56 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Sean Stevenson
9700 Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL 33946
webstevenson@gmail.com

January 21, 2022

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners of the Public Service Commission:

I am a property owner at 9700 Little Gasparilla Island which is a property within the service area of the proposed central sewer system, Docket #20200226-SU.

I formally object and request that PSC deny Environment Utilities (EU) application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

The homes, on average, do not have heavy usage. Half of them are empty at any given time and all very easily managed with a properly maintained septic. A sewer system is a terrible 'solution' to a misdiagnosed problem.

Thank you,

Sean Stevenson
9700 Little Gasparilla Island, Placida FL 33946

Lisa Smith

From: KBL Stevenson <stevensonkorrie@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:50 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Korrie Stevenson
9700 Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL 33946
stevensonkorrie@gmail.com

January 21, 2022

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners of the Public Service Commission:

I am a property owner at 9700 Little Gasparilla Island which is a property within the service area of the proposed central sewer system, Docket #20200226-SU.

I formally object and request that PSC deny Environment Utilities (EU) application for Original Certificate of Authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

The simplistic beauty of LGI is that it is not a resort, filled with water sports or hotel events planned by an Activities Director nor is it a subdivision in the middle of a busy city. Instead, Little Gasparilla Island is a barrier island with no bridge to access it, free from restaurants, public roads, stores, business, etc. It is an authentic island and the owners are those who continue to help it continue in this quiet and tranquil atmosphere. Like any community we have responsible neighbors and irresponsible but thankfully the latter are the few. Responsible owners maintain their septic tanks by putting in enzymes monthly, not allowing large numbers of people in their homes for their size septic tank and getting it pumped out at appropriate times. *Those who don't do these things are the cause for any issues.*

The simplest, most environmentally healthy solution is to have owners of septic tanks report to the state of Florida every 3-5 years, dependent upon the size of tank, with a statement from a septic tank company that it is running properly and does not need a pump out or providing the recent date that it has been pumped out.

A generator-required grinder pump "sewer" is a stunningly environmentally invasive and outrageously expensive solution to a misdiagnosed problem.

Our family rented on LGI for 13 years, enjoying wonderful vacations. We recently purchased a darling "fishing shack" home in September of 2020 that had never been owned by another family since it was built in 1974, which

was part of its charm. It has a brand new septic system which we take incredible care of after educating ourselves about how to do so. We renovated the home, which is a feat in itself on the island with no bridges, and we are thrilled to own a piece of paradise in our home state of Florida. We have been raised in Florida and have raised our own family. To be presented with this unbelievable overreach is deeply offensive to not only us, our neighbors, our island but also to the citizens of our state. Please do not allow those in this, and for financial profit only, destroy a pristine piece of our beautiful state.

I realize that you have received an enormous amount of letters asking you to deny and for far more reasons than what I have presented above and thus I will not belabor all of it. It is clear that the information is there for the case to deny their request.

Thank you for your attention to such a forever after impacting matter,

Korrie Stevenson
9700 Little Gasparilla Island, Placida FL 33946

Lisa Smith

From: jim lemanski <jimarvilla@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:50 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: sewer system for little gasparilla island.

good afternoon. i am writing to voice an objection to the purposed system. there has not been enough studies done on the benefit of this system. like the mandatory water hook-up, the only person that will gain is Mr. Boyer. the cost to us home owners is extreme. couple that with home owners being responsible for the power to the grinding pump incase of a power failure is stupid. the purposed monthly fee of 179.00 dollars plus is twice the amount people pay on the mainland in charoltte county. we have owned this home for 32 years. it is a second home, which means NO home stead tax brakes . a septic tank failure on the island would be horrible . what about a sewer system failure. these have dumped millions of sewerage waste into our waterways, by most counties on the coast or rivers. **WE STRONGLY OBJECT TO THIS PROJECT.** mr. boyer has told me ,in person, these projects are his retirement program...off the backe of home owners. thank for your time....jim&arvilla lemanski 8620 marsh street, little gasparilla island,placida florida. my e mail is jimarvilla@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: JENNIFER ELLWOOD <jen.e@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:41 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Docket # 20200226- SU

Dear Commissioner LaRosa,

My name is Jennifer Ellwood and I own the property on Palm Island at 151 North Gulf Blvd. I am formally requesting the PSC to deny the EU's application for wastewater services.

My property has probably the smallest house on the island. I pay approximately \$5,000 a year in property taxes which is difficult to come up with as I am a social worker and my husband is not working. The house is a small, 2 bedroom vacation house for us, we are there about 2 months a year. This house has been in my family for about 47 years. My parents bought it when I was 12 years old and I have many fond memories of summers there.

I have heard different estimates of costs to homeowners, one was \$20,000 per unit and another was \$13,221 per unit with an average residential bill at \$178.78 per month. This is simply cost prohibitive for me. There may be other expenses involved including installing a separate electrical panel by an electrician, the cost of clearing trees from the septic area for removal, and the possibility of needing to purchase a generator in the event of a power outage. I believe county should be covering the costs for this project.

Please consider my situation and concerns as you make this important decision.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Ellwood
jen.e@comcast.net

Lisa Smith

From: Fred Brown <fredwbrown@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:21 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Fw: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioner LaRosa:

As an owner of three properties on Don Pedro/Palm Island I am requesting the PSC deny the EU application for wastewater service.

I cannot believe that this is even being considered given that our current septic system has worked great over the years and currently we have no monthly fees. I am aware of issues where (St. Petersburg) sewer systems will back up and sewage will go in the roads and the Gulf. I have never heard of any issues with septic spillage for the over 35 years we have enjoyed Palm Island.

It appears to me that certain people are pursuing this project only for profit at the expense of exploiting all the residences of Don Pedro/Palm Island with unnecessary hook up charges and monthly fees. I do not see how anyone on the Commission would even consider adding to the financial burden for costs to replace something that is working fine unless they too are receiving a kick-back. Even considering awarding this project to Mr. Boyer, who is inexperienced in sewer, and can provide no actual costs or monthly fees for this is inconceivable at best. Just because the resort's septic is aging and needs to be replaced, let them update and replace their own. All the residents on Don Pedro should not have to pay. Please represent the people of Don Pedro Island and don't make people pay for something that is not needed to represent the financial benefit of a few.

Thank you

Fred & Susan Brown
fredwbrown@hotmail.com
sjbday@hotmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: JoAnn Elardo <outlook_3BD59017611E759F@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 7:41 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Sewer - Knight Island, Palm Island Don Pedro

Hello Commissioner,

I am a home owner on Don Pedro at 177N Gulf Dr. I have lived in Florida for over 15 years own several businesses and sit on several boards.

I am against the present plan to have an unqualified party put in the islands sewer systems. At present time we have a family business handling our water – we have problems with our water – first off it is yellow most of the time. Band-Aids and Duct Tape hold the system together.

The first approval of this we will see a sell off to a larger company. It is a money game – like having a non profit Coop start up – there is no need – if you are set on going this route get a major utilities to do it. Not a new family business. I am also unaware who requested this sewer service – I have never even heard it was needed. I am uncomfortable with any of the information that has been sent by this party regarding the sewer – No information on the cost or how it will be done?

We urge you to really look into to this first instead of putting this in the hands of a firm that has never done it before.

Please vote No
Thank you

JoAnn & Robert Elardo

Sent from Mail for Windows

Lisa Smith

From: Paul Brenneise <pbrenneise@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:34 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Objection to private sewer
Attachments: Objection to private sewer proposal.docx

Please find attached objection to EU's central sewer system on Palm Island.

Paul Brenneise
941-445-0898
pbrenneise@yahoo.com

Lisa Smith

From: Cathy Derr <cathy@gwamarillo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 9:54 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Palm island

Cathy Derr - -
530 N Gulf

I am a Property owner on Don Pedro island.

I object to the proposal and ask the PSE to deny the application for original certification and authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Thank you.
Cathy Derr

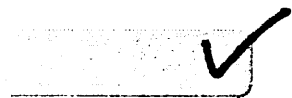
Cathy Derr, CCIM | Agent

Gaut Whittenburg Emerson | Brokerage & Property Management

600 S. Tyler St., Suite 101 | Amarillo, TX 79101

Office 806.373.3111 | gwamarillo.com

cathy@gwamarillo.com



Emails sent or received shall neither constitute acceptance of conducting transactions via electronic means nor shall create a binding contract or lease in the absence of a fully executed written agreement between buyer and seller or tenant and landlord. Email communications shall be subject to final client review and approval.

Lisa Smith

From: James Davis <drjwdavis@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Palm Island Sewer

Hello,

I am a home owner on Don Pedro Island and would like to express my opposition to the proposed sewer service.

The opacity on the finances of this company and the proposed project are a concern. We are giving them a blank check to charge us whatever they want to install the sewer and the opportunity to change us any thing that they want to in reoccurring charges. They have no experience in a project of this scope and no track record of even finishing what they have started.

If sewers are needed, there has to be a better way to go about it than to hire a company with no technical expertise for such a project.

I also do not feel the need for sewers on the island has been established. There seems to be no benefit to the homeowners who will fund the cost of the entire project. The needs of the island need to be determined by a company that is not going to profit from the sewer system.

Please deny EU's application for wastewater service

Thank You
James W and Christie Davis
161 S Gulf Blvd
Placida, FL 33946

Lisa Smith

From: terry kent <terryakent1031@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:36 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Central Sewer Don Pedro Island

Commissioner LaRosa,
My Name is Terry Kent
470 Bocilla Dr.
Don Pedro Island

Up front I want to voice my opinion on why we do not want a sewer at this present time.

After reading over the proposal my first comment is "This proposal is a solution looking for a problem."

Why I am against this:

- A. I do not believe at this time we have a problem on sewerage that needs addressing. No proven reason why we need it.
- B. If we need a sewer that should be up to the county to address and to tax us accordingly .
- C. Uncertain Hook-up Cost: When EU first presented to PIE, the connection fee was estimated at approx. \$20K per unit. When the rates and tariffs were finally submitted by the applicant, the requested Service Availability Charge per ERC was reduced to total estimated \$13,221.
- D. No contract...normally for this type of construction there is a general bid. EU is not a contractor that has won a bid to install sewer.
- E. No performance bond required.
- F. EU has not shown that he has the expertise for this type of project.
- G. The scope of this project would be large...disruption of traffic flow on the island would be horrible. We are accessed only by ferry.
- H. No compensation for the easements that would be from the house to the road.

Commissioner, I would ask that you deny this 1/2 baked idea be shelved until we have a problem that needs to be solved. And not let someone who thinks we have a problem for him to solve. Please deny the EU application.

Thank you,
Terry Kent

Lisa Smith

From: daulenti43@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:33 AM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Deny EU's application for original certificate Docket # 20200226-SU

My name is Richard Aulenti and I live at 120 N. Gulf Blvd. on Knight Island. My wife and I have lived in our home for the past 18 years.

Location:

We live on Knight Island which is accessed by driving onto a barge and crossing over the Intercoastal. 8 cars maximum allowed and weight restrictions enforced. The barge is pushed across the Intercoastal by way of a Tugboat. Heavy winds, low water tides, commercial and emergency vehicles, bikes and walk on passengers are also involved which makes the crossing complex.

Sand roads.

Mainly single family homes

Many lots are held by a Conservancy and will remain undeveloped.

No high density high rises.

No commercial structures outside of the Resort Resort has 3 stories maximum and they have their own sewer system.

Need:

Our septic is routinely maintained and working perfectly. It was engineered as per Charlotte County's building code. It works.

New single family homes are being built on Island and new septic systems are being built to Charlotte County's specifications. If Charlotte county did not feel these systems worked why would they issue a permit?

Hardship:

Many homeowners are retired.

We live on a fixed income.

To finance replacing a WORKING septic with an untried sewer and pay two thousand dollars a year in monthly fees would cause many Islanders to have to sell.

Competence:

The applicant has no evidence of prior experience with wastewater removal.

The applicant needs to prove financial capability. What if he goes bankrupt?

The applicant needs to provide a performance bond for a project.

The applicant has a questionable track record.

Who will be responsible for systems failing?

We request you Deny EU's Application.

Thank you.

Richard Aulenti

daulenti43@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

Lisa Smith

From: Chuck Soderquist <sodo1@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 9:53 AM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Island Sewer support

Dear Sirs,

I would like to express my support for central sewer be brought to Palm Island and Little Gasparilla Island. There is no single issue which would benefit the environments of these Islands more.

Chuck Soderquist

Phone # 941-270-7992
E-mail Sodo1@live.com
PO Box 958
Englewood, Fl. 34295

Lisa Smith

From: timothy daniel <tdanielmd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 8:23 PM
To: Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Sewer palm island

My name is Tim Daniel. I own 450 Bocilla Dr., Placida, FL. This is a home on Palm Island, formally known as knight and Don Pedro islands. I'm writing to object to the EU proposal for central sewer installment.

There are many reasons. I am not opposed to central sewer as I understand the environmental impact of septic systems. However, there are significant problems with the used proposal. This is not an exhaustive list, but includes the fact that it will include a 13–20,000 cost to each homeowner which will need to be paid immediately, a monthly cost of double the areas region for normal water and sewer systems, the huge traffic impact it will have because of the use of barges to access the island, the destruction of the natural peaceful environment of the island including the disruption of roads and front yards, is the requirement of the homeowner to pay the cost of the electrical upgrades necessary to run the new system as well as installing a generator to prepare for electrical outage outages, the inexperience of EU, they are claiming ownership of the property in my front yard to install the system, all property damage will be at my expense.

In short, I am not against central sewer but I am against how it is being done. In my opinion this should be part of why I pay huge taxes on my property. This should be done with taxpayer dollars with a Charlotte County oversight. It should not come out additional Expense to me personally. I strongly encourage you to reject this proposal.

Tim Daniel
Tdanielmd4@gmail.com
229-200-2199

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Lisa Smith

From: Sally B Johnson <sbjohnson3@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 10:52 AM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner La Rosa
Subject: Request to Deny EU's Application for Original Certificate of Authorization Docket # 20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Sally Johnson. I live on Knight Island at 120 N Gulf Blvd. I have lived on Knight Island for almost 20 years. We live on a canal off the Intercoastal. Need for sewers?

Our home has 2 residents. Our neighbors on both sides and across the street also have 2 people residing in their homes. We leave for a period of time in the summer as do our neighbors. I bring this up because we have very low impact on our septic system. Most of the on Island lots are single family dwellings. Our septic systems were all inspected and approved by Charlotte County. Our canal is clear, clean fish jumping, dolphins, occasional manatees and dozens of birds. No water testing has been done to prove a need for a sewer. A more dangerous event would be the potential for a sewer spill into the intercoastal from a broken waste water pipe being pumped under the water.

Competence:

My Objection to EU is also about competence. There is NO prior experience in this area. This is a major undertaking costing multiple millions. Should a novice be in charge? He has run the water company on Gasparilla Island with MANY furious customer complaints.

Would you want an unproven Dr. to perform a complicated surgery on you? This is a major undertaking and we don't want an beginner in charge.

Please deny EU's proposal.

Thank you.

Sally Johnson
Sbjohnson3@gmail.com