

Lisa Smith

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 1:55 PM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20200226
Attachments: Docket #20200226-SU; RE. Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU; Docket #20200226-SU

Please place the attached in Docket No. 20200226.

Thank you!

Lisa Smith

From: robinmadden@islanderproperties.com
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 1:51 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners: I own two properties, a residence located at 64 Tarpon Way and a business, Islander Properties, Inc. located at 330 S Gulf Blvd Unit 40 on Don Pedro-Knight-Palm Island. I am formally requesting that you deny Environmental Utilities, LLC. application to provide a central sewer system. My concerns are as follows:

- the applicant's financial ability to take on this project
- the applicant's technical expertise
- the uncertainty of future rates and charges
- the need for additional costs, such as electrical panels, tree/landscape removal/replacement, installation of a generator
- the applicant's inability to provide a pay over time plan
- the lack of statistic analysis that proves we are polluting the waters

As a business owner and real estate Broker who sells and help buyers purchase property on our island, this entails additional costs, when in fact a new septic tank and/or septic field has been paid for recently. I personally have to replace my septic field in the next month for \$9000 and certainly do not want to incur another \$25,000 plus for a sewer replacement, when this new field will have a life span of 15 years.

Again, please deny the application.

Robin Madden

Owner/Broker

Islander Properties, Inc.

7025-A Placida Rd

Englewood, Fl 34224

941-276-6902 direct

941-697-2000 office

www.islanderproperties.com

Charlotte County Tourist Development Council Member

2018-2020 President Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association Gulf Island Coast Chapter

2015 President Englewood Area Board of Realtors

Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist

Lisa Smith

From: S Crymes <s_crymes@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 1:32 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Cc: Rhonda Freeman
Subject: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

EMAIL TO:

Clerk of the Commission clerk@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner LaRosa: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner Clark: Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us
Commissioner Passidomo: Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us
RE. Docket #20200226-SU

We object to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization. We are asking the PSC to deny EU's application for wastewater service.

1. FINANCIAL ABILITY of the applicant

We have had a reasonably good service experience with the applicant related to the water service. However, we have seen no evidence that convinces us that the applicant has the financial ability to build, maintain and service this type of sewage system. Also, the applicant has not addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or conditions.

There is no performance bond required and we have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.

This project is too important to sub out to an unqualified applicant

2. TECHNICAL EXPERTISE of the applicant

We have had a reasonably good service experience with the applicant related to the water service. However, we have seen no evidence that convinces us that the applicant has the technical expertise to build, maintain and service this type of sewage system.

Also, a failure will concentrate sewage into the failure point, potentially resulting in significant impacts to the environment and all the creatures living near a concentrated spill. Manatees are already dying at high rates due to loss of seagrass due in part to red tide. If there was a failure that dumped a concentrated and high amount into the bay where the manatees feed, for example, they could be even more negatively impacted than they are today.

I'm also concerned about how the project will impact the gopher tortoise and other species that are native to Little Gasparilla Island.

3. FAIR & EQUITABLE RATES & CHARGES

We are extremely concerned that the mandatory costs of sewage in addition to the mandatory water hook up is going to drive our retired neighbors that are full time islanders off island. Many live on fixed incomes. Also, increased costs will

make ownership out of reach for many more in the future. We do not want to island to become financially accessible only to the most wealthy. Already, the market prices are pushing us in this direction and this project has the potential to drive off existing full time and retired neighbors. Historically, LGI has had some economic diversity given to its lower cost basis to own a home. Our concern is related to one time fees as well as the ongoing cost including:

- Average monthly cost. Our water bill is already extremely high. Total cost for water, sewage and trash removal should be higher than the mainland due to cost of providing service, but not many multiples of what it costs on the mainland. Common sense would suggest that while providing this service is more difficult, the multiplier should be within a reasonable range. **Our water bill is already much too high in our opinion and some of the most expensive in the State of Florida**
- Uncertain Hook-up Cost: We have no realistic idea of what it will cost
- Electric: the system pump requires a separate electric panel, installed by a licensed electrician at the expense of the owner. We don't have specifications to get bids and estimate what this will cost
- No grandfathering of septic systems: regardless of age or **condition**. We installed a new septic at 8394 Little Gasparilla Island before we sold the house to our neighbors recently. The cost of this new system was included in the price set to sell the house. The new buyers just paid for this system recently and are retired. As long as the system is serviced and operating per requirements, don't see a need to replace immediately unless mandated by Federal, State or County law or regulation. We do not see evidence that this is the case.
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Our names are Sarah Crymes and Rhonda Freeman. We own a home on Little Gasparilla Island at 8342 Grand Ave., Placida, FL 33946. We also own land on Little Gasparilla Island at 8336, 8338, 8346, 8400 Grand Ave and 8392, 8396 Little Gasparilla Island.

Our mailing address is 1255 Jackson St. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33705. Our emails are s_crymes@hotmail.com and rfreeman123@yahoo.com

Thank you

Sincerely,

Sarah and Rhonda

Lisa Smith

From: Soosie Sirmons <soosie71@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 1:22 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: RE: Docket #20200226-SU

To The Clerk of the PSC and Commissioners LaRosa, Clark and Passidomo:

I am writing to you as a ***property owner and resident of Don Pedro Island for over 45 years.*** My residence is within the service area contained in the application from Environmental Utilities, LLC [EU] for central sewer. ***I object to EU's plan for wastewater service on our bridgeless barrier islands.***

Given the the fact that I do not believe there is a proven need for sewer service, the proposal to do so seems moot. But the primary reasons for requesting the denial of this particular proposal is my concern regarding the applicant's financial strength and management experience as well as the costs (both hookup and rates) to the stakeholders involved with this project. Having personally known the applicant since his arrival on the island in 1986, I am highly concerned about the financial responsibility and business acumen of the applicant. As an individual, the applicant has been a good friend for all these years, but his ability and record of running businesses is questionable.

Therefore, I am asking (with much background and personal knowledge) that the PSC deny EU's application for wastewater service!!

Yours truly,

Susan Sirmons
190 Kettle Harbor Dr.
Don Pedro Island
soosie71@gmail.com

Lisa Smith

From: James Greenbaum <jamesgreenbaum@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:42 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Hello,

My name is James Greenbaum. I am a Florida resident at 170 Kettle Harbor Drive, Placida, FL 33946.

I am very concerned about EU's application for a private wastewater service. I do not feel there is a need for this service. Furthermore, I never inquired, or requested any service like this. I take excellent care of my private septic system.

The owner of EU has no experience or expertise in this area of business, and this concerns me. He has not provided proof of financial security to take on such a project, causing even more concern. There is no evidence or reason for their rate structure, and no information provided by them regarding the structure of charges in the future.

It is my opinion that this project application should be denied. I am worried not only for myself, but for other residents as well.

James Greenbaum

James Greenbaum
170 Kettle Harbor Drive
Placida, FL 33946

978-815-1577 cell