

**Antonia Hover**

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**From:** Hannah Barker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 2:32 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket Correspondence  
**Attachments:** RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Palm Island and LGI potential sewer; RE Opposition to Docket #20200226-SU; RE RE. Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE RE. Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket#20200226-su; RE Docket #20200226-SU; RE Docket No. 20200226-SU

Good afternoon,

Please place the attached emails in Docket No. 20200226.

**Hannah E. Branum**  
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6004

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** 'Mic McCully'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. McCully,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

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**From:** Mic McCully <mic\_mcc@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 4:25 PM  
**To:** Mic McCully <mic\_mcc@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

County Commissioner/Clerk,

My name is Michael McCully and I am a current home owner at 61 Kettle Harbor Dr, Placida Fl, 33946 on Don Pedro Island.

It's been brought to my attention that county is in process of approving privatization of a centralized sewer system on Don Pedro Island.

I object to the current plans of the proposal and the unnecessary financial burden being placed on the homeowners to solve a problem which has not been researched, documented or shared with the homeowners. What exact issue is the sewer trying to solve? What is the new solution going to provide that is better than what exists today? What are all the options/alternatives? Why is it required? Why is the cost be pushed down to the homeowners?

I'm also confused how the County can forcibly create an unregulated monopoly on the homeowners of Don Pedro Island. My understanding of government control, laws and regulations is to protect its citizens from exact situations like these, not to create them. What protection mechanisms are provided to the homeowners?

I request that the proposal is denied.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mic McCully  
61 Kettle Harbor Drive  
Placida, FL  
33946

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:38 PM  
**To:** 'Rob W Brown'  
**Subject:** RE: Palm Island and LGI potential sewer

Dear Mr. Brown,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob W Brown <rwbrown@atlasinsuranceagency.com>  
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:08 PM  
To: Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>  
Subject: Palm Island and LGI potential sewer

Dear Commissioner,

The islands have added population, waste, and drain fields. Not all drain fields are located high enough to avoid inundation in storm tides. The sandy soil loses nutrients easily to the bay. Many systems are older or not properly functioning to leach the nutrients. All of the foregoing provide excess nutrients to our waterways and degrade the water quality.

A proper sewer system would be a good step in the right direction for water quality improvement. I am not qualified to recommend specifically how or who should be the sewer provider. Keeping the broader perspective in mind, I believe the sewer conversion needs to occur and urge you to work toward that goal.

Thank you,

Rob Brown

Sent from my iPad

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:38 PM  
**To:** 'John Tillis'  
**Subject:** RE: Opposition to Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Tillis,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

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**From:** John Tillis <JTILLIS3@tampabay.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:37 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioner Clark

I am a generational homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island and I am writing to you today in opposition to the EU's proposed central sewer.

The EU has not been clear, or forthcoming, with the connection fee for each residence to this proposed new system. The estimated cost of over \$13,000 to the initial approximation of \$20,000 per unit is certainly a substantial amount of money for any household to pay lump sum. I have not yet seen an itemized statement explaining how these numbers have come to be. Having previous experience with repairs and construction cost with the unique dynamics of island living, delays and fees seem to have a way of multiplying once a project gets under way. The before mentioned numbers are given as estimated cost, I am uncomfortable with not having a bottom line.

The water cost on Little Gasparilla Island are definitively higher than mainland residences. With a flat rate of \$70 per month, whether the house is occupied or not, plus an increased rate per gallon water bills are sometimes several hundred dollars due to billing being on a quarterly basis. Where is the guarantee that the sewage rates would be affordable? The EU will certainly

increase the county's sewage rate to cover their fees for profit. Where is the agency to govern and regulate costs passed on to the homeowners?

Several homes on our LGI street have recently purchased and had professionally installed and inspected new septic systems. These systems range in age from 2-6 years old. They are being well maintained and regularly inspected as instructed by the county. The penalization for these homes to be forced into connecting to a sewage system they didn't ask for is beyond absurd. The time, scheduling, and cost incurred to upgrade the septic systems shows that these homeowners are will to carry the burden of environmental responsibility individually without a private company forcing their hands to connect to a sewage system without a clear cut maintenance plan or outline in place to handle emergency failures.

Continuing with the concerns to the environment, the destruction to the roadways and easements on our private island will wreak havoc not only to transportation, but the already existing fragile water lines run to our homes. Several water lines, installed by EU, have not been installed to regulation standards, with many being visible on the surface of the ground and repeatedly driven over by our choice of transportation, golf carts, daily. The frequent fracture of water lines or damaged connectors causes the immediate need for boil water notices that are poorly communicated. The majority of the residences are not full-time dwellings, with many of the homes being vacation rentals. The guests vacationing on the island are rarely aware that there has been a boil water notice issued due to poor communication from the EU owner and staff.

These are just a few of the reasons I object to the certification for this proposed sewer. Please reject this application and allow us as homeowners the privilege of enjoying our island as it is without any further intrusion or damage to its land and natural beauty.

Respectfully,  
John D. Tillis  
[jtillis3@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jtillis3@tampabay.rr.com)

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:38 PM  
**To:** 'Dave Dillon'  
**Subject:** RE: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Dillon,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

**From:** Dave Dillon <poppadillon@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** RE. Docket #20200226-SU

I am a resident homeowner on Palm Island. I am writing to encourage you and the other commissioners to vote NO on the application of Environmental Utilities to become the provider of waste water services to our island. First and most importantly, I have not seen or heard of any engineering studies that state that the current septic tank/ sand mound system is not providing the required filtration satisfactorily. How can the subject of who gets to build a system come before it is established that such a system is needed? The people who live on the island are not in favor of any system being built until such time as it is PROVEN that such a system is needed. Secondly, the applicant does not possess the necessary expertise to carry out such a project. What similar projects have they done? Do they have the necessary financial wherewithal to finance a multi-million project? What time frame are they proposing? What will the costs to the homeowners be, both for initial hook-up and for ongoing maintenance and service? Until all of the above questions are answered satisfactorily, neither Environmental Utilities nor anyone else should be given a permit or license to provide and operate a central sewer system.

I urge you to reject EU's application at this time.



Sincerely,  
David L. Dillon, 5 Pointe Way, Placida, FL.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:37 PM  
**To:** 'Jeff Bashore'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. and Ms. Bashore,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Bashore <jeffreybashore@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 3:11 PM  
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>  
Cc: Mel <melbashore@gmail.com>  
Subject: Docket #20200226-SU

Jeffrey & Melissa Bashore  
8738 Marsh Street  
Placida, FL 33946  
Jeffreybashore@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 8738 Marsh Street on 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.

While I feel strongly that the barrier islands and low lying inland areas of the state should be swiftly migrated to a sewer system to protect our fragile ecosystem, I am concerned that the current proposal is deeply flawed.

Turning a project of this magnitude over to an LLC that has zero experience with installing or operating a sewer system is unacceptable. Environmental Utilities lacks both the experience as well as the capital to take responsibility for the proposed massive undertaking that will impact some of the most delicate, unspoiled areas of the SW Florida coast. The proposed solution leaves many critical questions unanswered about right-of-way access and how the many points of failure involved with a 'low pressure' sewer system would be effectively managed in the harsh climate presented on the barrier islands.

Charlotte County should be held responsible to implement and manage the project directly. It is clear that they are trying to find any bidder to insulate them from the obligations of managing this important work. Turning this over to an inexperienced, under-capitalized, for-profit LLC with the county maintaining no accountability for the outcome is not the right move for the environment, property owners in the affected areas or the citizens and visitors of Florida at large.

Regards,  
Jeff and Melissa Bashore

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:37 PM  
**To:** 'Joanne Dillon'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Dillon,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

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**From:** Joanne Dillon <jbd2691@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 3:09 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioner Clark,

This email is to voice my opposition against EU's private sewer proposal. My husband and I just recently moved to Don Pedro Island and have attempted to find info on the qualifications of this company to partake in such a project, as well as the impact it will have on our Island and the financial costs to be imposed on homeowners. At this time we cannot get any accurate information regarding these concerns and therefore feel more studies and technical expertise need to be done before considering a permit for this project, which could have a devastating financial impact on homeowners and our quaint community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joanne Dillon  
5 Pointe Way  
P. O. Box 567  
Placida FL 33946

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** 'Matthew Weston'  
**Subject:** RE: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Weston,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

**From:** Matthew Weston <mattwestoncontact@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 2:53 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** Fwd: RE. Docket #20200226-SU

To whom it may concern,

As a homeowner on Palm Island/Don Pedro Island. I Object to the proposal and ask the PSC to deny the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization. To be straightforward I'm a common sense person and I do not understand all of the reasons why this particular company would like to take on this project but it seems to me that it is not in the best interest of me personally. There are a lot of red flags that gives me caution. In my personal life when there are

red flags I take a step back and research more until I'm comfortable with the decision. I sincerely request that you deny EU's request of their application.

I appreciate your service to our community no matter your decision!

Thank you,

**Matthew Weston**

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

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** 'lillyonufрак (null)'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket#20200226-su

Dear Mr. and Ms. Onufрак,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3rd at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

-----Original Message-----

**From:** lillyonufрак (null) <lillyonufрак@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 2:52 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; commisioner.passidomo@psc.state.fl.us  
**Subject:** Docket#20200226-su

To whom it concerns,

We are the homeowners at 17 Palm dr., Placida. We would like to voice our concerns over the proposed central sewer. We are asking that you reject Environmental Utilities application for wastewater service.

Some areas of concern:

Fluctuating hook up costs

Inflated monthly costs , twice the amount residents pay on the mainland  
Costly electrical hook up  
Questionable sewer function in the event of a power outage  
Costly tree removal, disturbance to existing landscape and turtle/wildlife habitats  
Concerns over being able to afford the cost of connecting  
Mandatory hook up ( my septic system is a year old)  
Most importantly no oversight and no recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure and no responsibility for sewer spills, environmental destruction, system maintenance and emergencies

On a personal note. We have only lived on Palm Island for a year. We have spoken to many of our neighbors and there is an overwhelming agreement based on their years of experience that Environmental Utilities is not a company to be trusted.



Sincerely,  
Jim and Lilly Onufrak

Sent from my iPhone

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** 'David W Adams'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Mr. Adams,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

---

**From:** David W Adams <dadams@bj-law.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 2:25 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Cc:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

Dear Commissioners:

My name is David Adams, and with my partners, I own property at 8356 Little Gasparilla Island (LGI) in Placida, Florida. We have owned our property for approximately 11 years and have purchased water through Little Gasparilla Water Utility which I understand is related to Environmental Utilities (EU).

Lack of Proven Need for Service

I have reviewed the PSC docket and spent some time reviewing the documentation associated with the EU application. I am unable to locate sufficient background facts and documentation to show there is a proven need for the service. The vast majority of LGI houses are vacation properties for which the residents occupy occasionally on the weekends. It is not like there is a heavy nitrogen load coming from the south end of the island. While Charlotte County made reference to nitrogen load studies in their correspondence to the PSC, none of those were conducted at or around the proposed service area. Additionally, the Ackerman study is not comparable for LGI because the Ackerman subdivision contained a plethora of canals near the studied septic systems, which canals increased the plume of nitrogen entering the bay, prior to the StoS conversion. Therefore, additional study and facts demonstrating a proven need for service should be in the record before the commission approves the application.

### Sewer Service

I am not aware of anyone requesting sewer service on LGI. However, if there was a proven need, then I would expect Charlotte County to provide the utility. Providing water and sewer is a core governmental function. It is not fair for Charlotte County to shirk its obligation to provide core government services to the ratepayers. It is also unfair to the ratepayers to force them to use a private utility which has an unproven track record for a project of this magnitude. If construction or operation of the sewer system is compromised (such as a hurricane or flooding), then the ratepayers will be left without any means to dispose of raw sewage because the plan requires all homeowners to remove properly functioning septic tank systems. EU does not have the same resources as Charlotte County to mitigate climate change and flooding. Additionally, if Charlotte County undertook the project, then it would be done with governmental bonding and financing which results in a significantly lower cost of capital. For example, EU requires a large lump sum payment for construction of the system, as compared to Charlotte County which allows ratepayers to spread the hookup fee over a long period of time (I believe 10 years). The operating costs would also be spread among the entire Charlotte County population as opposed to the LGI residents. This would result in lower rates and operating costs. Some of the homeowners are on fixed incomes and the abnormal hookup cost and operating fees will force them to sell their properties on the island. As proposed, EU will receive a guaranteed profit for constructing and operating the Sewer System. As a governmental entity, Charlotte County does not need to make money operating the sewer system, which is better for the ratepayers. Moreover, Charlotte County has the expertise and experience to install and operate complex sewer system such as the one proposed by EU. It seems insincere for Charlotte County to claim that this project is a priority in its long term septic to sewer plan, but is unwilling to schedule and complete the project consistent with its claims that LGI is a priority project to reduce nitrogen load in Charlotte Harbor.

### Technical Expertise/Customer Service

The application does not demonstrate any experience or expertise in constructing or operating a sewer system. The ratepayers are at risk if EU is unable to properly construct or operate the system. Charlotte County is in a much better position to design construct and operate the sewer system proposed by the applicant. While I have not had much interaction with the affiliated party to the applicant, Little Gasparilla Water Utility, when we did have billing problems, there was no one who answered the telephone and our billing correspondence was not answered on a timely basis. If ratepayers are required to use EU, they deserve prompt and professional customer service.

### Costs and Rates

The documentation attached to Charlotte County's letter to the PSC includes plans and estimates that were based on 2017 dollars. Accordingly, the estimates for construction and operation of the system are grossly

understated (considering inflation, labor and cost of materials). Additional information and estimates are necessary in order to make a thoughtful decision of this magnitude. There is a lack of information available for analysis at this time.

### Conclusion

For the above reasons, I ask that the Commission deny EU's application to provide Sewer Service at Little Gasparilla Island at this time.

Thank you,

David Adams  
813 452 2882

## Antonia Hover

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**From:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** 'Lindsay Yates'  
**Subject:** RE: Docket No. 20200226-SU

Dear Ms. Yates,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC– Docket No. 20200226. I know how concerning it can be when presented with a possible change regarding utilities.

I have had the opportunity to hear from many of you over the past few months, both in person at our service hearings, and through the countless emails I have received. I want to stress how valuable the customer perspective is to me. Tomorrow the parties in this case will be filing briefs, laying out their arguments, and we are scheduled to make a decision the morning of Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at our monthly Agenda Conference. If you would like to watch the Agenda Conference you may go to FloridaPSC.com, where it will be live streamed.

Thank you, again, for contacting me. I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Clark  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-6038

**From:** Lindsay Yates <lyates@springsips.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 2:10 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20200226-SU

Commissioners:

My name is Lindsay Yates and I live at 2 Pointe Way on Don Pedro Island. I write to you to state my **opposition** to the application of Environmental Utilities for your approval of a Certificate of Authorization.

I have been a property owner on Don Pedro Island since 2001 and a fulltime resident since 2008. During that time I have replaced a septic system in an older home and installed two septic systems in homes which my husband and I built. The more recent home was completed in 2019. I am not necessarily opposed to central sewer, but I am vehemently opposed to this proposal. There is absolutely nothing about the EU proposal that would inspire any sort of confidence in this operator to build, operate and maintain a system. Many of the letters that have been sent to you were written by people with more expertise than I in the areas of environmental impacts (not just the arguments for septic vs. sewer, but also the environmental impacts of

construction of the project on this fragile barrier island), the disadvantages (including additional costs to the homeowner) of a grinder system as proposed by EU vs. a vacuum system, the financial ability and technical ability of the applicant, and the outlandish rates and charges proposed by EU.

I think that previous correspondence on file and the testimony of expert witnesses has proven beyond a doubt that EU does not have the ability to satisfactorily meet the needs of the residents on these islands. Additionally, I personally find it offensive that during his deposition Mr. Boyer when describing his personal observations of seeing human waste on the ground, waste floating around after storms, septic tanks under water, and waste contained in 55 gallon drums did not make it clear that these observations were confined to Little Gasparilla Island, not Don Pedro, Knight or Palm Islands. I guarantee you that those are not the conditions under which I live. It's rather hard to believe that the tourists who continue to pay to rent homes on Little Gasparilla Island are not complaining about the awful odors that Mr. Boyer describes.

On July 14th, 2020, the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners approved a Bulk Sewer Treatment Agreement with EU. This Agreement was entered into with no fanfare, no advance notice to island residents and no (as far as I know) request for proposals from other companies. As far as I know, the County did not even put out a request for competitive proposals. To the best of my knowledge, the County did not consider the financial ability of the applicant, the technical expertise of the applicant nor did they care what the applicant might charge its customers. This was not a civic-minded offer to improve a problem that no one is sure really exists – no water studies have been done; no numbers generated on the number and age of the existing septics – this was a simply a way for EU to profit at the expense of its friends and neighbors.

Central sewer installation?? Maybe. But not by this particular for-profit company. The island residents deserve honesty and professionalism. I have been told by acquaintances of Mr. Boyer that he has indicated that this is “a done deal.” I certainly hope that is not true.

I hereby formally request that the PSC deny the application of Environmental Utilities LLC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lindsay C. Yates  
[lyates@springsips.com](mailto:lyates@springsips.com)  
970-879-1879