

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Hannah Barker  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 8:39 AM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket Correspondence  
**Attachments:** Re Docket #20200226-SU Central Sewer; Proposed Sewer System on Little Gasparilla Island; Docket #20200226-SU; Fwd DOCKET #20200226-SU; DOCKET #20200226-SU; Docket No. 20200226-SU

Good morning,

Please place the attached email 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

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Mark G. Healey <mhealey@c2iinc.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 9:09 PM  
**To:** Office of Commissioner Clark  
**Subject:** Re: Docket #20200226-SU Central Sewer  
**Attachments:** Central Sewer.docx

Please see attached letter

Thanks,

Mark G. Healey  
President  
Control Instruments, Inc./C2i  
Cell: (678)-576-7223  
Office:(404) 351-1085

*Mark Healey  
5069 Bocilla Dr.  
Placida, Fl 33946*

March 16, 2022

Reference: Proposed sewer project on Palm Island  
Docket #20200226-SU

My wife and I live on Palm/Don Pedro Island.

We understand a private utility company (Environmental Utilities LLC) is attempting to gain the right to build a central sewer on the island(s). As an engineer who works in the water and wastewater industry for the municipal market, I find what has transpired very concerning.

On a typical municipal project, the County would hire a consulting engineering firm to provide a study and determine the need for the project. As far as I know there has been no study to determine the need for central sewer on the island.

After the study and assuming a need is determined, a consulting engineering firm would perform a design. Once again, I know of no independent design that has been submitted for approval.

Once a need is established, a design approved and a budget submitted the project typically will go out to public bid to qualified contractors. Although there are different ways to implement a project including various design-build methods this project has somehow has not gone down the acceptable path:

- No need has been established
- No independent design completed

In addition, Environmental Utilities has not completed any other projects of similar scope and complexity and would not be considered qualified.

Also, Environmental Utilities has not provided evidence they have the financial resources to perform the project.

In addition to lack of need and design the Environmental Utilities proposal will cause a significant initial cost (and continuing additional costs) to the residents and a negative impact to our yards.

We urge the Public Service Commission to deny this request.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Healey

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Sean Kelsey <777slk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 7:32 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner La Rosa  
**Subject:** Proposed Sewer System on Little Gasparilla Island

Dear Sir,

I am deeply troubled by the proposed cost you are discussing to hook up and pay monthly for the sewer system on Little Gasparilla Island.

I am sure you think of all the homeowners as rich people who won't think twice about \$20k to hook up and \$240/month user fee. Believe it or not there are still good common folks that own property on the island who likely can't afford your new system. These costs are exorbitant and may force my parents to have to sell the house they purchased over 50 years ago. What are you going to tell the old man who lives four houses from the south end who built his house in the 1950's and runs a shell shop in Englewood. I always get a chuckle when I come to visit and pull up in my 42 year old john boat and the neighbor is there in his 42ft Boston Whaler which he paid over 1 million dollars for. You're going to run off the common folks so the rich people can come in and buy up their houses, tear them down and build rich man mansions. Shame on you!

While there are some folks that live on the island full time, most of the homes are vacation homes, so the amount of sewage going into the tanks is very limited. Likewise, where are the studies which show there are any environmental issues with the septs in that area?

Furthermore, the proposed system requiring homeowners to maintain generators is likely going to cause more environmental issues when these generators fail. What are the last few houses at the south end of the island who I understand don't have electricity, what are they going to do?

If you want this system so bad then go to the State of Florida and find the funding to put it in. Likewise charge a monthly fee which is inline with what the folks on the mainland are paying. I am sure they are not paying \$240 a month. Another thought is for people who have owned their property for say over 25 years, let the hook up be optional.

Furthermore, while this Boyer guy who runs the water system is a nice guy, his water has been stale and unsafe to drink at times. My wife got sick from his water and he came out and flushed the line at the south end of the island. So now you are wanting him to also go into the sewage business? Big Mistake.

In closing, please turn down this sewage system or at a minimum allow an opt out for the old timers.

Thanks you for your consideration,

Sean Kelsey 407-810-4110  
9798 Little Gasparilla Island

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Susan Jenkins <Susan.Jenkins@Quality-Roofing.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 6:12 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Docket #20200226-SU

**Subject: Docket #20200226-SU**

Good afternoon,

We, Frank and Joann Guagliardo and Richard and Susan Jenkins are joint homeowners of several properties on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI) which is in the proposed service area in Environmental Utilities (EU) central sewer proposal.

We object to this proposal and formally request that the PSC deny EU's application for original certification of authorization for wastewater service.

We as homeowners do not need this service or request this service. In addition, no water quality testing has been done in our area to prove a need for this service.

Many things concern us as a homeowner of LGI, including:

- it is very expensive and burdensome for the homeowner. Connection of this system has been estimated to be between \$13,000 and \$20,000 per homeowner.
- The average monthly bill is estimated at \$178. Extremely costly in comparison to our current septic tank system.
- An electric panel separate from our home will also be needed with additional cost.
- We as the homeowner will also need to invest in a generator to avoid sewage back up in the event of power outages.
- There is no contract and no point of general oversight. No single point of recourse for us as the homeowner in the event of overruns or project failures.
- EU has not addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure due to a storm or any other reasons.
- Potential sewer spills in the Intercoastal.

These reasons demonstrate that EU does not have both the financial ability and technical expertise to undergo this project. There is too much unknown to the homeowner and too much burden both costly and environmentally harmful to our property. We currently have dealings with this owner and there are constant issues and unnecessary costs.

Sincerely,

Richard and Susan Jenkins  
Frank and Joann Guagliardo

*Susan Jenkins* | Marketing Director | Quality Roofing, Inc.

1905 N 40<sup>th</sup> Street | Tampa, FL 33605

(813) 620-4797 Office | (813) 626-1756 Fax | [Susan.Jenkins@Quality-Roofing.com](mailto:Susan.Jenkins@Quality-Roofing.com)

**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Guy Hurst <retiringtoecuador@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 5:40 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Fwd: DOCKET #20200226-SU  
**Attachments:** P1340447.JPG; P1340446.JPG; P1340445.JPG; P1340444.JPG; P1340443.JPG; P1340442.JPG; P1320340.JPG; P1320343.JPG; P1320342.JPG; P1320341.JPG

Note: This was first sent out on my wife's email by mistake. Guy

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:**DOCKET #20200226-SU  
**Date:**Wed, 16 Mar 2022 17:15:43 -0400  
**From:**Jvonna Meier <meierjvonna@gmail.com>  
**To:**[clerk@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:clerk@psc.state.fl.us), [Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us), [Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us), [Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us)

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County, by Environmental Utilities, LLC. DOCKET NO. 20200226-SU

POST HEARING BRIEF AND REQUEST TO DENY APPLICATION

Comes NOW Guy L Hurst, pro se, as a potential customer, would respectfully advise of matters not necessarily covered by the parties.



## 1. The Applicant is Dangerous to Health and Safety

The Boyer-family-run-for-profit-private water system named “Little Gasparilla Water Utility” is not safe. It would be reckless to allow this group of actors into a waste water disposal system. They cannot run potable water, and surely cannot run necessarily dangerous waste water.

The new limited liability company that is trying to force an unwanted private for-profit sewage system on Little Gasparilla Island (aka LGI) is owned by the same family that is endangering the health and safety of our island, our habitat and our lives.

The Boyer husband and wife LLC that comes before this commission under a new nom de plume, is the same private family-run for-profit entity which carries the name “Little Gasparilla Water Utility”. It is supposed to provide safe drinking water to LGI. It is remarkable, and, not in a good way. that “John R. Boyer” and “Diane Kay Boyer” are the same people that want to use another private LLC to force an unwanted and undesirable private sewer on our bridgeless barrier island. They are dangerously reckless and incompetent.

As one recent example shows, on or about January 21, 2022 there was a purported water leak in the potable drinking water system somewhere on the island. This private for-profit entity reportedly was going to make a planned repair of a leak in their private water system and the water to the north end of LGI was to be purposefully turned off to make repairs. The method of informing home owners, residents, workers and tourist/renters was perfunctory, inaccurate and unprofessional.

The “wife” (aka Diane Kay Boyer) of this family-run for-profit entity was on my right-of-way and actually yelling up at persons that there would soon be a water outage. She yells to a home owner’s family two doors

down from us as they stood on their second story deck that there is (or will be) a “boil order”. She punctuates this verbal boil-order-edict by yelling: “It’s the law.”

So, the oral yelling of the “wife“ to those that happen to be around was “It’s the law”, insinuating that it was mandatory.

I would respectfully suggest that her verbal yelling down our right-of-way on our private property does not make an unwritten and secret boil order into “the law”. Besides being rudely inane behavior, this shows that there are no plans or procedures or systems in place to keep our island safe from this private for-profit family company. Health and safety of this potable water system is highly suspect and these people don’t evidence much care for health and safety.

During the same outage. A renter just north of us had the husband/owner tell her that the renter “may” want to boil their water after the outage if the water pressure drops. So owner/wife yells one thing and the owner/husband suggest they may want to boil water.

There was no written notice provided during this event. There was no email. There was nothing posted to our homes. If you did not hear the yelling you had no clue. The only written information was a Facebook post by the “son”. And that post was taken down after I complained in writing under his post with copy of my email to the company. That post, which was taken down, said that one test came back, but another had not yet been received. (Note: I did not get a screen shot of the post before they remove it or I would attach it.)

As far as we know this oral “boil order” is still in place. None of Boyers/owners came by to yell down the right-of way that there was an all clear. At some point in time they posted an undated message on their websites that the boil was over.

Accordingly. it is unremarkable for us to suggest that oral notice to some houses that appear occupied is not a safe way to inform that we may get sick and that a “boil order” exists.

This is dangerous. This is reckless.

The Boyers/owners can't handle a drinking water system safely and should never be allowed to handle a waste disposal system of any kind.

(Note: Our water bills from this private for-profit LLC are \$238.77 before we use a single drop of water. Needless to say, this is overtly higher than it should be for a governmental service, especially since the actual water is provided by a governmental trust entity.)

## 2. None of the Boyers Appear to be Licensed in Florida to Handle Drinking Water or Wastewater

Jack Boyer opines often that he has been licensed for thirty years: "Jack got his water operator's license 30 years ago and was lead operator for Little Gasparilla Water Utility."

The State of Florida does not seem so show that any of the Boyer family is licensed -- or ever was licensed. Having run the search on the state website there is nothing to suggest that any of the these people have a Drinking Water, Wastewater or Water Distribution License with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. [https://prodlamp.dep.state.fl.us/ocp/reports/accesspublic/Search\\_form](https://prodlamp.dep.state.fl.us/ocp/reports/accesspublic/Search_form)

## 3. The Boyer is a for-profit LLC and Shows Little Concern for the Environment on LGI

Attached are pictures from just my right-of-way showing the work product of the purported environmentally concerned Boyers. They demolished a huge strip through private property to run a small water line. This simply is not an environmentally concerned group. And, the land is still a huge scar, having never been repaired.

## 4. Actual Notice must be Given to Owners of OSTDS on LGI

The applicant's lawyer in response to my objection to the unpostmarked tri-fold junk mail "notice" mailed just days before Christmas, advised this Commission that proper notice would be given sometime later. That has never occurred.

The staff approved an uncaptioned and unsigned "notice" that was bulk-mailed to only some owners and still has not been rectified. Counsel's representations otherwise appear to be, at best, mere specious remarks unrelated to the procedural due process problems he has created by sending out something that was intentionally packaged to look like what it was a tri-fold unpostmarked piece of of junk-mail. At best, use these pieces of junk-mail were headed for the bottom of a bird-cage, not to provide actual notice that ones' OSTDS (On Sight Treatment and Disposal Systems) were about to be taken and handed over to a private for-profit corporation for free. The Commission should take judicial notice that a tri-fold unpostmarked junk-mail sheet of paper from some unknown sender was in reality just bulk advertising mail --- aka third-class mail. It is clearly not "regular mail" as required by Rule 23-30.030.

See also: <https://www.lawinsider.com/dictionary/regular-mail> Courts that have looked at the issue have found that "regular mail" is USPS First-class mail. Third-class advertising mail is purposely pseudo-notice and judicially is judicially not notice at all. The Commission should take judicial notice that on LGI, which has no USPS mail delivery whatsoever, junk mail is not regular mail in any source of reason or logic or precedent. The notice in this matter is a violation of agency rules and the application should be dismissed instant.

If the Commission is to be taken seriously, it needs to act like it cares about its rules and the citizens of Florida.

Most of us own interests in quite expensive and often new OSTDS that are already permitted from the state of Florida. According, most every person is an owner/part-owner of a Utility system that is in conflict with this proposed for-profit private utility. Taking away our OSTDS may not be a substantive due process taking issue, but surely it requires procedural due process and proof of actual notice before you take away my \$30,000 OSTDS and give it to a private for-profit LLC for free.

This matter is of grave concern to those of us that cannot afford to pay for these unknown and overtly over-priced shenanigans of a dangerous for-profit private LLC. The Commission must provide due process, as this for-profit private LLC will not and does not. Only Florida governmental agencies and trusts under the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution are required to treat people with due process. This private LLC has no intention to treat us fairly. Every owner of a OSTDS should have actual notice in accord with procedural due process. The private LLC only wants secrecy, deminimus services and buckets money at our expense.

#### Conclusion

It would inappropriate to allow this inexperienced, unlicensed and for-profit family run LLC to take our OSTDS and get into the waste water business before it ever figures out how to move clean water safely.

Deny the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy L. Hurst, Pro se























**Lisa Smith**

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**From:** Jvonna Meier <meierjvonna@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 5:16 PM  
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**Subject:** DOCKET #20200226-SU  
**Attachments:** P1340447.JPG; P1340446.JPG; P1340445.JPG; P1340444.JPG; P1340443.JPG; P1340442.JPG; P1320340.JPG; P1320343.JPG; P1320342.JPG; P1320341.JPG

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Conclusion

It would inappropriate to allow this inexperienced, unlicensed and for-profit family run LLC to take our OSTDS and get into the waste water business before it ever figures out how to move clean water safely.

Deny the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy L. Hurst, Pro se























## Lisa Smith

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**From:** Lindsay Yates <lyates@springsips.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 3:31 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Subject:** Docket No. 20200226-SU

Commissioners:

My name is Lindsay Yates and I live at 2 Pointe Way on Don Pedro Island. I have written to you previously and I spoke at the February 9<sup>th</sup> public hearing. I have several more points to make in requesting that you deny the application of Environmental Utilities.

I was surprised to learn at the February hearings that the system EU proposes to use is the “step system” rather than the “grinder system” that we had previously been told was what EU was going to use. Having undertaken a quick crash course in the step system, I am having trouble understanding how this is going to be more environmentally sound than what we are using now. We are replacing one tank in the ground that processes all waste for another tank in the ground that is going to hold all the solids and still have to be pumped out? The tank is made of fiberglass? We have seen fiberglass pools on this island pop out of the ground under certain circumstances. So, what keeps it in the ground? A full tank? As a consumer, nothing about this proposed system makes any sense to me. We’re going to tear up our yards, tear up our roads, incur additional expense for a generator to keep the system going during our frequent electric outages, and perhaps additional expense for electric upgrades – all on top of tap fees and construction costs – and then we’re still going to have to pay for a pump out???

In listening to the testimony at the hearings, I understood Ms. Swain or Mr. Boyer to say that he is entering into an agreement with Palm Island Transit that will give him a rate on barge transportation of approximately \$1,000 a month. That’s a little hard to believe when we’re talking about large construction equipment making many trips. Currently the per-vehicle charge for a passenger vehicle alone is \$55.00 per trip; a truck over ¾ ton is \$220; a large dump truck \$625. This rate is a pipe dream and I think that EU’s other projected costs for all phases of the project are underestimated.

It has been said that those opposed to the application just don’t want to pay for central wastewater service. Not 100 percent true. The residents of these islands are more than willing to pay to take measures to improve the environment – be it water quality, air quality, nature conservation, eradication of invasive species – as long as they feel that they are paying for the best solution after in-depth study and consideration of ALL methods for a possibly improved method of waste disposal. At this point we do not feel that enough research has been done to prove that our septic systems are in fact contributing to the pollution of the surrounding waters; nor has enough research been done to prove that improved septic systems with an ongoing, required inspection system cannot be superior to central sewer. And, yes, those in opposition to this application do not want to pay for central wastewater service at exorbitant rates – up to 5 times what is being paid by our mainland neighbors. We are more than willing to pay if a proposed system makes sense and is operated by a reputable and experienced company that is not out to take advantage of its customers.

This is not a case of “I don’t want to pay.” This is a case of “have all avenues been explored?” Is this really the most environmentally sound approach to a yet-to-be-proven problem? Is EU the best that Charlotte County can come up with to implement a wastewater treatment plan? We don’t think so. Property owners on these islands feel so strongly about this issue that to date the PIE Action Fund established to oppose this application has collected \$87,000 from 190 donors – 40 of whom have made contributions of \$1,000 or more. I am making this statement as the Treasurer of Palm Island



Estates Association. I believe that the level of donations indicates that a solid group of residents feel that EU is not the right company to be entrusted with a project of this magnitude.

I understand that most often supporters of an issue are perhaps not as vocal as the opponents of the issue. However, I have found the very low number of letters indicating support for the EU application rather interesting. I have not counted the number of letters in favor, but there have been very few. Most curious is that quite a few of the letters submitted in the several days following the February hearings were sent from the EU email account and many did not identify how they qualified as a stakeholder. More letters were sent subsequent to that time that indicated support for the project, but also did not identify an address or what their interest might be. And then there are some letter writers that are quite obviously not in the proposed service area. I hope those letters have been segregated out by staff.

Once again, I respectfully request that you deny the application of Environmental Utilities. Thank you for your time and careful consideration.

Lindsay C. Yates  
970-879-1879