

Charlie Smith

From: Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:37 PM
To: 'tericumiskey firetechequipment.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket #20240032-Su

Good afternoon Teresa Cummiskey,

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20240032, and forwarding them to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Best regards,

Charlie Smith II

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
850-413-6770

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From: tericumiskey firetechequipment.com <tericumiskey@firetechequipment.com>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:19 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; commissioner.clarke@psc.state.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket #20240032-Su

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Gentlemen

I am writing to you regarding the application for Certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC.

We are property owners at 8144 Little Gasparilla Island on Little Gasparilla island.

Most people are not familiar with Little Gasparilla Island. Our little island is remote and accessible only by boat, We have no roads, no streetlights, no commercial activity its basically an island of houses.

Environmental Utilities LLC is currently our water supplier. The installation of the water lines around the island is completely unprofessional and sub par. (See attached picture for reference looking toward neighbors at time of installation of water line) The water line that comes down to our home isn't even completely buried , maybe down 1 ft and is above ground at various places. I have seen that with others as well. Utility boxes that are half

installed in the ground. The concern is if this is the way they ran water lines how are they going to run sewer lines? I highly suggest the commissioners send a team to the island to see all the challenges before considering this application. The island deals with flooding issues due to weather events (Hurricanes and Tropical Storms) and even some heavy rains can cause major flooding on our island.

Also I have seen the plans for the Waste water system which is not a true sewer system. It seems it includes utilizing the property's existing septic systems and only pumping off the residual water. This does not solve the waste water problem on the island and the septic systems would still need to be pumped out and maintained as well as the high cost that Environmental Utilities LLC would be charging each homeowner for their system. At present the homeowners on the island are maintaining their systems and do not see a need for service. The water in our bays is thriving with aquatic life. The majority of homes can not afford a huge upfront cost \$12,000 and this would be a huge burden to the owners on the island who are still recovering from the wrath of Hurricane Ian. We have previously owned property in Big Coppitt Key just outside of Key West, when the sewer system was installed the homeowners were given the option to pay upfront or have the cost rolled into their real estate taxes to lessen the burden. As a homeowner we do not have the luxuries that properties on the main land. We pay large amounts of real estate taxes while receiving no services, trash, lights, roads etc from the County.

I would highly suggest that a better job be done to ensure that IF a sewer project is done is done right the first time. Our eco system on LGI deserves the best protections available to allow the island to thrive as one of the last undisturbed by commercial development pieces of Florida.

Respectfully

Teresa Cumiskey
8144 Little Gasparilla Island
941-268-1022

