

Charlie Smith

From: Betty Leland
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 8:04 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket #20240032
Attachments: Docket#20240032-SU ; Re: Docket No. 20240032-SU Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC.

Good Morning:

Please place this email in Docket #20240032.

Thanks.

Betty A. Leland, Executive Assistant to
Commissioner Art Graham
Florida Public Service Commission
bleland@psc.state.fl.us
(850) 413-6024

Charlie Smith

From: Barbara Dwyer <bdwyer31@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 5:10 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Cc: mfriedman@deanmead.com; Barb Dwyer
Subject: Docket#20240032-SU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Barbara Dwyer. I am a full time resident of Hideaway Bay Beach Club Condos (HBBC) on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI). I am asking that you **deny** the application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County(CC) by Environmental Utilities,LLC (EU).

I did not receive the notice of the application for this certificate in the mail. Of the people I have spoken with here at HBBC, 3/4 of the people have not received the notification including our property management company (Grande Properties) & our Board of Directors. I get my LGI Water Bills on a regular basis. I find it disturbing that this legal notice went 'missing'.

HBBC does not need sewers. We have a DEP permitted septic plant in good working order. NES - the service provider we use to insure the proper working of our plant has a Class A wastewater license.

I have concerns about the cost of this project. There is no differentiation in prices listed between single family homes and condos. Prices quoted by EU total \$13,511.00. The prices estimated in the CC Sewer Master Plan (SMP) are significantly higher and listed **in 2017 dollars**. Costs at LGI would be \$22,540.00 based on occupied lots. Costs at Don Pedro Island would be \$30,773.95 based on occupied lots. Costs at Knight Island would be \$16,138.52 based on occupied lots. These figures assume the transmission lines that EU is responsible for installing according to the CC Bulk Sewer Agreement are included in each area calculations. If, EU was able to secure the permitting to put the sewer line through Don Pedro State Park and the mangrove islands between the mainland & the barrier islands, only one transmission line would be necessary. In that case, the average cost based on 964 ERC's would be \$20,722.12. Again these numbers are based on 2017 dollars. Construction costs have increased between 19 - 37 % since 2020. That would more than double EU's stated costs based on the CC SMP figures. I don't find these costs for sewers to be fair & equitable.

In addition, there are the hidden costs that are not addressed in this submission. They include: Electrician & electrical upgrades; barge fees for pump trucks & fill material; pump outs; the landscaping costs; back up generators; interest costs on loans. Another hidden cost will be the decommissioning of the HBBC septic plant. NES indicated to properly decommission our plant the costs could run upwards of \$500,000. This could be an additional \$3787.88. This approx cost would be shared by only the 132 residents that currently use the plant. I don't find these costs for sewers to be fair & equitable. Because EU is a for profit company, the island residents are also not able to defray the costs of the sewers using grants, bonds or MSBU's. The cost of a loan becomes a personal expense that cannot be transferred with the property if sold.

I am a single, retired resident on a fixed income. My quarterly bill for sewer would average \$495.00. My current cost for septic services at HBBC is \$151.36 per quarter. I don't find these costs for sewers to be fair & equitable.

There is a lack of faith in EU to run a sewer project and to do the job properly based on his history with LGI water. A lot of these concerns were brought to the PSC attention previously. Some of the issues were shoddy work; repairs made with duct tape, pipes not buried to the proper depth; unavailability of LGWU employees during water pipe breaks; lack of timely boil water notices, water pipes crossing through property lines without permission. The owners don't have any current experience or licensing for waste water. A water spill is not good, but it won't hurt anything. A sewage spill in the island environment could be catastrophic.

One of the letters submitted with EU's application in favor of sewers was from a resident that moved off the island in 2022 (Berdine Miller). Just another reason not to trust EU.

To sum up:

Is there a need for service - NO.

Are the rates fair & equitable - NO.

Does EU have the technical expertise to run this project - NO.

Please **deny** this application by EU.

Barbara Dwyer
HBBC - G8
(585)698-9828
bdwyer31@yahoo.com

Charlie Smith

From: Bernitt, Beth <Elisabeth.Bernitt@aecom.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:12 AM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: wbernitt@tampabay.rr.com; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket No. 20240032-SU Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Re: Docket No. 20240032-SU Application for certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County by Environmental Utilities, LLC.

To Whom it may Concern,

The residents of 262 South Gulf Boulevard oppose the installation of centralized sewers by Environmental Utilities, LLC for the following reasons:

- We have a perfectly functional septic system that is in good condition. This system is maintained by us and is in good working order.
- Environmental Utilities, LLC has no proven experience installing or running a Utilities company, so we have no information regarding the performance of this firm.
- No rates have been publicly released, we have no information about the costs that will be imposed on us for services supplied by Environmental Utilities, LLC. We understand this utility company will be a private, for-profit company.

Regards,

Elisabeth and Wayne Bernitt

262 South Gulf Boulevard

Placita, Florida 33946