

**Antonia Hover**

**From:** Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2024 9:18 AM  
**To:** 'Barbara Dwyer'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Docket#20240032-SU

Good Morning, Barbara Dwyer.

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.

Thank you!

*Toni Hover*

*Commission Deputy Clerk I  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Phone: (850) 413-6467*

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**From:** Barbara Dwyer <bdwyer31@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 5:10 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Chairman 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>; Office of Commissioner Graham <Commissioner.Graham@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Fay <Commissioner.Fay@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Cc:** mfriedman@deanmead.com; Barb Dwyer <bdwyer31@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Docket#20240032-SU

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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  
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