

Charlie Smith

From: Charlie Smith on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 1:11 PM
To: 'tandhburns@gmail.com'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket No. 20240032-SU

Good afternoon Heather Burns,

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

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your email message may be subject to public disclosure

From: tandhburns@gmail.com <tandhburns@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:09 AM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>; commissioner.fay@psc.state; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: Docket No. 20240032-SU

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

To Commissioner Larosa, Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Passidomo, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Fay and Clerk of the Commission:

My name is Heather Burns, and I am a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island. The greatest Public Service you can provide to our island community is to deny the application for Original Certification of Authorization that Environmental Utilities, LLC (EU) has put before you in Docket No. 20240032-SU.

I don't know what exactly EU is offering as a change since being denied less than a year ago for the same Certification, but it definitely has not included community involvement or approval. I have not seen evidence

of feasibility studies for implementation nor how the proposed plan is better than properly functioning septic systems for our unique environment and isolated situation.

Little Gasparilla Island is designated Rural according to Charlotte County for good reason, and has additional logistical and topographic issues compared to a mainland rural area. Not only is it a low density, bridgeless barrier island with sand paths, it doesn't have a continuous North/South platted public route. Every service, supply, and piece of equipment must be brought over by boat or barge, and the cost of this has steadily increased over the past 5 years. The cost estimates cannot be comparable to what it might cost on the mainland.

EU's proposal puts a heavy burden on individual homeowners for initial expense, including electrical requirements, and uncertain ongoing service and maintenance issues in a salt air and storm sensitive area. Stating that EU will hire the experts is just further proof that they don't have any themselves. Where will these experts be based once the system is in place? Will we need to wait for days for them to get to the island to fix issues? When there is a power outage from either a storm or a transformer exploding, FPL is often limited for how quickly they can get across to the island to make repairs. The EU option has our sewage reliant on electricity as well. If, indeed, Mr. Boyer is hoping to get this system in place and then hand it over to the County for future control and maintenance, LGI residents will be even less well-served, with no resident control or say in operations.

Well worded applications and nicely drawn diagrams do not give a full picture as to the unique nature of Little Gasparilla Island, and I respectfully ask that until such a time as there is community involvement, oversight, and a better plan for bringing sewer to the island, that you DENY this application.

Sincerely,

Heather Burns

8960 Seagrape Lane

tandhburns@gmail.com