

Antonia Hover

From: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 8:18 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Docket No. 20240032
Attachments: Re: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; No sewer LGI; RE. Docket # 20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; FOR Centralized Wastewater; Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island; Proposed low pressure sewer system for Charlotte County Barrier Islands: DPP, LGI and PIE; RE. Docket #20240032-SU; RE. Docket # 20240032-SU; Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket 20240032-SU

Please place the attached in Docket No. 20240032.

Thank you!

Antonia Hover

From: W COOPER <erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:56 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Re: Docket #20240032-SU

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April 24, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

Regarding Docket #20240032-SU

I am opposed to a central wastewater sewer system on Little Gasparilla Island (LGI), as I do not see any proven need for one. I am requesting the Florida Public Service Commission deny Environmental Utilities, LLC's application to install and operate a central wastewater sewer system on LGI.

I have owned my home on the island since 1976 and have always had a reliable septic tank and drain field. I have not requested sewer service and do not see the need for this service on LGI. We are not permanent residents on the Island, however, we and our family are frequent visitors to our home on the Island. We have raised our children and now have grandchildren and great-grandchildren that enjoy spending quality family time on LGI.

I am very concerned that the Environmental Utilities (EU) is a private, for-profit entity and they lack prior experience in owning and operating a wastewater utility. We have heard that the initial cost for connecting to the system would be at least \$20,000+ per household. There would be additional costs associated with having septic tank and drain field removed, and excessive monthly costs thereafter. This is ludicrous and not affordable to a private homeowner who is retired, on a fixed income, and did not ask for this service.

We strongly oppose the approval of Environmental Utilities (EU) application for original certificate of authorization and initial rates and charges for wastewater service.

Please DO NOT approve this application.

Respectfully,

W. Ernest and Sheryl S. Cooper

8316 Grand Ave.

Little Gasparilla Island

erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com

Phone: 863) 512-0951

Antonia Hover

From: Laura Roberts <lvr2570@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:24 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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My Name is Laura Roberts and I am a homeowner on Don Pedro Island

I would like to log my objection to the proposed sewer application for Don Pedro, Knight and Palm Island submitted by EU.

My concerns are many, starting with a private utility being awarded a contract to install sewers. I do not believe they will be able to fulfill the obligation to install and service the system proposed as they have no prior experience in this area. I further believe the system proposed is flawed and will ultimately cause harm to our beautiful island. The system proposed will not effectively remove our waste and will require it to be pumped out on a regular basis. The tanks proposed are also made out of fiberglass; there is a very real risk of them coming out of the ground during one of our frequent Florida storms. The system will be powered by each resident's electricity, thus requiring the service of licensed electricians to install power to each individual pump. Residents will also have to install generators in case the power goes out or risk backups into our homes, further increasing the already high price of installation and maintenance of this poorly designed system. The fees this private company submitted are very low compared to what residents historically use.

I understand Charlotte County wants what is best for the environment as do I, but I beg you to consider all the options before authorization is given. Including having the county install real sewers or letting us continue to use the septic systems that are working just fine, and will continue to function with proper maintenance.

Our island is unique in many ways. Please visit here to assess if there truly is a need before you make a blanket decision that will cause more harm than good.

Sincerely,
Laura Roberts
450 S. Gulf Blvd. (Don Pedro Island)
Placida, FL 33946

Antonia Hover

From: John Day <johnday1000@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:21 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: No sewer LGI

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Dear Sir/Madam,

My personal perspective as a concerned homeowner of Little Gasparilla Island and environmental proponent is that the proposed wastewater service will have a devastating impact on the island and islanders. The service proposal has not demonstrated evidence to be better for the environment or residents/owners. It is, however, beneficial for those who stand to profit from the installation and forced hook up for ongoing service. This is an untenable situation. I can't fathom how the installation of such a system wouldn't create massive upheaval to the landscape, not to mention at a high cost to all owners. There seems to be little to no advantage of this project and it represents a major can-of-worms with potential problems in my mind. PLEASE deny EU's application for wastewater service.

Thank you!

John Day
9552 And 9548 Buccaneer Trl
Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL. 33946
Sent from my iPhone

Antonia Hover

From: Kristen & Colin <kristenandcolin@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:16 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Chairman La Rosa
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Clerk of the Commission,

I am an owner of 9752 Little Gasparilla Island and would like to ask you to deny Environment Utilities (EU) application to install wastewater service on the barrier island especially Little Gasparilla Island (LGI).

No proven need for service

On LGI there are a handful of full-time residents and the rest of the houses are only used occasionally on weekends as vacation homes, so the volume is not as much as it is with a full-time resident with large families. The low volume can be determined by looking at the water consumption. Additionally, water quality testing by independent/reputable firms have not been conducted so there is no creditable reason for converting to sewer.

Private property rights

Nobody seems to have an answer when asked why water lines were allowed to be run on private property. Utility easements on our private property especially for a tank and equipment is not acceptable as it we are giving up our rights for any sort of equipment to be placed there which could be a loud pump, unsightly tank, etc.

Monthly costs and EU's lack of experience

If this is truly a need Charlotte county should devise a better plan to roll this out versus entertaining a new company that has never done sewer. EU is owned by the same company that does the current water, and the service for the water has come under scrutiny of how they reach out to residents when there is a water main break or need for a boil water advisory, etc. If there is a spill for the sewer, they have no track record of being able to deal with this timely and effectively. It has been documented that the monthly cost for sewer will be over \$200 which coupled with the existing water cost of \$135, this is \$4,020 per year which is double what we pay for our full-time residence in Pinellas County for our family of 5.

Initial costs

We purchased our house less than 4 years ago and wanted to be good Stewards of the environment and decided at the time to replace the septic system with a new tank and drain field to ensure our house did not contribute to any wastewater issues. The proposal by EU to this new system mentions that our new system will be removed and replaced with a smaller holding tank which does not make sense. Coupled with the financial issues we have run into with Hurricane Ian, and the rising insurance costs, this is a huge financial burden for us and the other homeowners which will force many folks off the island. Additionally, the \$12,000 initial cost seems outdated and we are concerned that it will exceed this and homeowners will be forced to pay this exorbitant bill.

I hope that you will deny EU's application.

Kristen Lagor
kristenandcolin@outlook.com
9752 Little Gasparilla Island Placida, FL 33946

Antonia Hover

From: Doug Young <sentinelsuites@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 5:02 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Subject: Docket #20240032-SU

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Dear Board Members,

We again object to the EU application for a variety of reasons. First of all we thought this was settled business. How many times do we all have to go through process, every two years?
If and when Charlotte County determines that there is a definite need for city sewer service on our island then Charlotte County should provide it and not abdicate their responsibility to the citizenry by passing it off to some opportunist with a solution looking for a problem to solve.
What makes EU qualified for a project of this magnitude. If in fact a sewer system is deemed necessary why not solicit bids from companies that actually have experience and a track record that we all can look at so we can make an informed decision.
In conclusion this sewer proposition is something that the vast majority don't want, it has yet to be determined necessary, and if it is Charlotte County should be the entity that provides it.

Thanks for listening,

Doug & Joyce Young
221 N Gulf Blvd
6 Pointe Way

Antonia Hover

From: Brittany Essig <brittanybythebay@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; governorrn.desantis@eog.myflorida.com; ltgovernorjeanette.nunez@eog.myflorida.com
Subject: FOR Centralized Wastewater

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Dear Commissioners,

If not now, when? Our environment, specifically our waterways, are at great risk. The evidence is clear. As a local resident of Englewood, a soon to be property owner in Charlotte County (1654 Tarpon Ave), and a business owner in Charlotte County, I am in strong support for the implementation of a centralized sewer system. The current reliance on septic systems is having a detrimental effect on our local environment, community and economy.

I have two businesses in Charlotte County; one of which is real estate. When I was showing property on Little Gasparilla Island last year, after a high tide, there was clear evidence of septic waste on the road. The buyers were disgusted. The effect of this is multifaceted. First, it was a safety concern. Second, it negatively impacted the buyers (and my) desire to be on the island, let alone make an investment there. And lastly, our poor wildlife and beauty of such a place is being compromised. Shouldn't fragile, more vulnerable land such as these barrier islands be protected from septic waste? I understand that many many years ago centralized sewer systems weren't even an option but now they are. Why wouldn't we want to preserve what we have before it's negatively impacted? Our land value will hold and hopefully increase with this improvement.

The bottomline is simple: the environment, the wildlife, and our waterways are all being hurt by the lack of a centralized sewer system. Now is the time.

You know that saying, "More money, more problems"? Well, that goes with this. More people, more poop. Yikes. If not now, when? Please, please help.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Brittany Essig (LMHC & Realtor)

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Warmest Regards,

Brittany Essig, Realtor®
Licensed Sales Associate



Cell: [941-626-0632](tel:941-626-0632) | Fax: [941-698-1403](tel:941-698-1403)

Email: Brittanybythebay@gmail.com

Search for your piece of paradise: www.ParadiseExclusive.com

Main Office | 8300 Wiltshire Drive, Suite 3, Port Charlotte, FL 33981

Placida Office | 5855 Placida Road, #302, Englewood, FL 34224

Boca Grande Office | 471 Park Avenue, Boca Grande, FL 33921

Dearborn Office | 200 W Dearborn Street, Englewood, FL 34223

Antonia Hover

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 4:10 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

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

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
To: Commissssioner.Passidomo@psc.stste.fl.us <commisssssioner.passidomo@psc.stste.fl.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 04:02:13 PM EDT
Subject: Fw: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

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

From: Karyn Flatau <kaflgi9148@aol.com>
To: Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us <commissioner.larosa@psc.state.fl.us>;
Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us <commissioner.clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.us
<commissioner.passidomo@psc.state.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 12:14:40 PM EDT
Subject: Septic to Sewer conversion Little Gasparilla Island

Dear Commissioners,

I spoke at the FPSC hearing and sent a letter in favor of septic to sewer conversion. I was shocked to hear that we were turned down. I do not think they understood that we were requesting septic to sewer. I live on LGI, and am a full time resident. This is our only home. No second home. We built our home and moved here from Hernando County. We had a smaller home on the island and decided to live out our retirement on LGI. So we sold our vacation home and built our new home. We moved in 2010. We had to put in an ATU, County permit #273187. When we moved in we had no idea what that meant until the County came to inspect our unit and I received a bill for inspection, The inspector explained everything to me, including his opinion, "that septic to sewer would most likely be in the near future for the barrier islands." He stated that 'it would be environmentally better for our ECO SYSYTEM."

Currently, we pay the County for the permit and inspection, but they never come to inspect (we have video cameras) and we pay Martin Septic service, who do come out and inspect every 6 mo.

My concern is that currently, we only have ONE service provider, who will come out to the island to maintain and pump out our septic systems. I am asking the Board to please let us know how this will be handled if Martin Septic decides not to service our Island any longer OR if we lose the barge service needed to get service trucks over to the island. Right now the barge service comes out of ELDREDS MARINA. THEY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT TO SELL THE MARINA. SO THIS COULD BE A BIG PROBLEM!

It is very disappointing to know, that presently there is a company who is willing and able to establish septic to sewer conversion, who has been turned down. I am deeply concerned that we will one day, unexpectedly, have a huge problem on our hands.

I requested that the County send their contingency plan for the Island regarding Sewer systems, maintaining and assuring barge service for their trucks. To date, we have received no reply.

We would feel much better knowing that our elected officials are preparing for the future of our barrier Islands and the surrounding waters.

Sincerely,
Karyn & Art Flatau
9148 Grand Ave.
Placida, FL 33946

Home 941 697 0186
Cell 352 650 5751

Antonia Hover

From: Debbie Dunn <debbiedunn8457@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 3:54 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Commissioner.LaRose@psc.state.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Proposed low pressure sewer system for Charlotte County Barrier Islands: DPP, LGI and PIE

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Dear Commissioner:

This letter is to respectfully ask that you reject the proposed central sewer system for the above-referenced barrier islands here in Charlotte County. My husband, Pete, and I bought a house at 8314 Grand Avenue on Little Gasparilla Island. We have had a second home here in Placida at Boca Vista Condos for 20 years and decided after Hurricane Ian and its damage, to sell the condo and seek another property elsewhere to escape astronomical assessments and lack of control over our surrounding complex. We were familiar with Little Gasparilla Island and were fortunate enough to be able to purchase a home here where we will be spending most of our time. We do have another property and I travel back to DeLand, Florida to take care of my real estate brokerage, but will spend our time here at our homestead; one we bought with no plans of being under another mandatory assessment of any kind. So, we have been bonafide taxpayers in Charlotte County for over 20 years.

We are in receipt of a letter outlining the proposed sewer system for LGI. We are vehemently against it for many reasons. The first being that we see no problems with the current septic systems located on individual properties. There has been no study that I am aware of to determine that the septic tanks on the island are causing any damage to the estuaries or the surrounding environment.

The second reason that I am not in support of this system is because it is owned by a for-profit company and from my understanding, this is not a large corporation with the ability to install, handle and maintain for the long haul, this type of sewer/septic system. It depends on electric power, and should there be an outage, (and there are many on the Island) the system would go down... and I shudder to think about what the outcome of that mishap could be. In addition, why does a for-profit company get to apply and perhaps be awarded with this job when it has not even been put out for bids by the County or the State? I'm not sure how that works, but one would surmise that a job of this magnitude would require a governing body to request bids by qualified contractors. I do not know this contractor/company who has made an application to put in this system, have no personal reasons to object to him/it, but only care about what happens to this Lovely Little Piece of Old Florida that we now call home.

The third reason is that this island is a piece of off-the-beaten-path paradise. There are no vehicles allowed here, with the exception of a few workers still here making repairs to homes and properties destroyed or severely damaged by Ian and Irma; this island has only sandy paths and roads (if you can call them that) which are traversed by golf carts. There is no County, State or municipal infrastructure here that would be able to support the kind of elements putting this system in would require. There are many areas of native vegetation, landscaped properties with tropical plants and trees. There is also wildlife that would and should not be disturbed by such a project, including endangered species such as the gopher tortoise, many birds, native reptiles and mammals. Tearing up the sandy paths and its accompanying easements that are home to this

vegetation, trees and wildlife would be a huge detriment to all of the home owners and inhabitants of Little Gasparilla Island., especially after almost getting back to normal after the devastation wrought by Hurricane Ian.

The fourth reason is the expense that would be incurred by each homeowner: many have family homes that have been passed down through the generations and cannot afford to pay for the required hookup. Many others have a second home here and live elsewhere most of the time, so their septic tanks are rarely used. Furthermore, if a for-profit company wishes to come in and do such a project, why should any property owner bear the burden of this cost. Let that company foot the bill. The majority of the islanders do not wish to have this thrust upon them and their right to a peaceful existence, so why should they be forced to use their hard-earned resources to pay for something that is not needed nor wanted?

If a sewer system was deemed a necessity because what LGI has here is broken, then let there be studies to prove that. And, should such studies show the need, then let a municipal entity (the one who collects the majority of real estate taxes from the properties on the island) take care of the project, and do it as it is done on the mainland. I don't know alot about this proposed system, but I have read enough to understand that there are many problems that are associated with the mechanics of it. If these barrier islands are to be forced to hook up to a sewer system, it should be the same types of systems used by those provided to the residents of other parts of Charlotte County and/or the State of Florida; and this should be after a need for such a service has proven to be necessary.

As a side note: this island does not need a bridge. Everything is fine just the way it is and those of us who live here the majority of the time seem to manage just fine with our boats and taxi services or with a little help from our friends. Should our access be diminished due to the sale of the Eldred's Marina in the future, then Charlotte County should step up and provide a solution to the limited availability of parking, boat ramps and slips needed for the Island access. A bridge is certainly not the answer due to the lack of infrastructure on Little Gasparilla Island.

In closing, I wish to state my strong objection to the approval of this project and request that the application for a central sewer/septic system for these barrier islands, and in particular, Little Gasparilla Island be rejected.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to following this process and to continuing to be a voice of opposition.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dunn, wife of Emory "Pete" Dunn
Homeowners at 8314 Grand Ave., Placida, FL 33946
Little Gasparilla Island resident

Debbie Dunn, President/Founder
HOFFRW
DeLand, FL 32720

and last but not least:

Debbie Dunn, Broker/Owner

Town and Country Realty

Your Powerhouse of Real Estate

516 West New York Avenue

DeLand, FL 32720

386-734-8890 - office

386-479-7981 - cell



Antonia Hover

From: Mike Riley <mikenriley@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:54 PM
To: Records Clerk; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Commissioner Graham
Cc: 'Meryl Schaffer'; 'Linda Cotherman'; 'Meighan Kerr'
Subject: RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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My name is Michael Riley

I am a Florida resident and property owner of 220 Kettle Harbor Drive, Don Pedro island, which is within the boundaries of the proposed service area of Environmental Utilities, Inc. (EU) application for waste water service.

I have lived at this address for over 15 years.

I object to the proposal under docket #20240032-SU and ask the Public Service Commission to deny the application for original certificate of authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Basically there is no proven need to do a 'septic to sewer' conversion in this service area. The water quality around our bridgeless barrier islands is good and the issues with the Lemon Bay water quality (high level of nutrients) has been found to be caused primarily by Charlotte County Utilities Recycle Water system which does not meet federal recycle water standards. Many forward thinking coastal counties have instituted a moratorium on septic to sewer conversions until each county can bring their own contaminating recycle water within federal standards. This process takes from 3 to 10 years to accomplish, yet Charlotte County has not seen fit to do a moratorium on conversions, and is in support of this private party septic to sewer conversion, which I do not understand – clean your own house before blasting others without proven need.

Our Islands are blessed with having a population of people that are environmentally conscious. We have the Bocilla Islands Conservancy, Inc. (BICI) to thank for implementing various programs to help maintain our islands attitude for nature and education on environmental issues.

BICI has a Gopher Tortoise relocation program to safely relocate this endangered species on new home sites. They also help residents build a Tortoise berm to provide habitat, and honor those with 'Tortoise Friendly Yards' (a unique and celebrated program by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservancy Commission).

BICI got our islands certified as a 'Community Wildlife Habitat' per below certificate. 'Palm Island' consists of Don Pedro and Knight islands as well as Thornton Key. Construction of the sewer system will devastate our certification and damage our wildlife habitat.



COMMUNITY WILDLIFE
HABITAT[™]



Palm Island is now a **Certified Community Wildlife**

Leading a nationwide trend in community concern, Palm Island has been officially designated as a NW Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

Palm Island is a unique barrier island that is home to a variety of wildlife, native & migrating birds, endangered species, tortoises, interesting insects, bob cats, seasonal sea turtles, and our abundance of fish & marine life. All of these animals contribute to the health & quality of our fragile environment. Some are pollinators while others balance the food chain.

Bocilla Islands Conservancy strives to protect island preservation of green space, and ongoing education

BICI also has sponsored the 'Mini-reef' program on our islands. These are mini-reefs that are placed under docks to clean our waters as well as provide a safe habitat for fish and marine life. This is part of the 10,000 reef challenge that many communities along the Florida coast have adopted with great success. BICI also helps remove invasive species of plants and encourages plantings of native or Florida friendly plants and flora.

One of my major concerns is the devastation to our roadways, trees, landscaping, wildlife habitat, etc. with the proposed sewer system. We enjoy and properly maintain septic systems, sand roads, open spaces, parks, trails, etc. which make living on our islands peaceful and tranquil. One of the downsides of living on these bridgeless barrier islands is ferry access furnished by the Palm Island Transit, Inc., or private boat. Because of Hurricane Ian and all the rebuilding by contractors that do not live on island, our ferry wait times have been an hour or so to leave or regain access to our homes. This proposed multiyear sewer construction project would lengthen these wait times even longer causing frustration and additional cost to EU – eventually passed on to the homeowners in rates.

Another major concern is an environmental spill of wastewater from these tanks and the intra-coastal waterway. With our current septic systems, they continue to operate efficiently and environmentally sound without electricity. I and the other island residents maintain our septic systems with routine sludge removal and inspections to ensure proper operation, replacing when deemed necessary and Charlotte County continues to supply permits for rebuild or replacement. The proposed system would be reliant on electricity to operate the pumps to move the wastewater off island. If the power fails for a period of time (a frustratingly regular occurrence and definitely when there is a hurricane or high winds creating no ferry service), we would be subject to the possibility of a wastewater environmental spill (only a small 60 gallon storage tank without a septic field) which would have a devastating effect on wildlife, wildlife habitats, and also our residents. By taking the wastewater off island through a subaqueous line in the intra-coastal waterway, there is the potential of a horrible environmental disaster in our waterways.

Why does the application allow EU a non-compensated easement for each resident to place their tank on our property near our house and allow them 24 hour access without homeowner permission. EU should have to purchase the easement from each homeowner because granting an easement without compensation goes contrary to real property ownership laws in Florida. This oversteps the boundaries of eminent domain without adequate legal proceedings or representation. It is basically granting access and ownership of private property to another entity without due process.

The cost to Homeowners for this wastewater system is tremendous, especially considering the fact of having to rebuild from Hurricane Ian. Our insurance costs are out of sight, again because of Hurricane Ian and the States position on insurance programs. This proposal would cost each Homeowner slightly less than \$15,000 up front with no pay over-time option. The monthly cost of around \$250 (or \$3,000 per year) is unconscionable for the removal of wastewater only – no sludge. The additional 'homeowner' costs of electrical panel installation, electricity, and sludge removal from the storage tank are too much. The costs estimated by EU have proven to be inaccurate or only estimates and the actual cost could and probably would be significantly higher. We can't afford uncontrolled spiraling costs to force many to move from the islands. This application also **requires mandatory** hookup by each resident – no exceptions, even if they recently replaced their septic system with a new, permitted, latest code system at a cost of \$10-20,000. The newest septic systems being installed are highly efficient and have been proven to clean wastewater to levels that exceed current federal and state levels, so why create potential problems building an expensive sewer system when septic systems can and will work adequately for bridgeless barrier islands without environmental issues.

Septic systems retard high density development where sewer systems encourage it. Our bridgeless barrier islands need to remain an environmentally balanced residential area of Florida that seems to be disappearing state wide on a daily basis.

This application is a repeat attempt to do 'private' sewers on our islands without support of the homeowners or a proven need. The prior application from 2020 was denied by the PSC because no need for service was justified or proven. The 2024 proposed private sewer system design is the same as the old denied proposal. There is already a private sewer system (Knight Island Utilities, Inc.) to handle the Palm Island Resort, which trucks its wastewater and sludge off island via the ferry. I would assume that the Resort would prefer to use the proposed subaqueous intra-coastal wastewater crossing of EU to remove their wastewater, but does not want to pay the same initial hookup and monthly fees as the rest of the service area homeowners. EU has designed their system to handle this Resort's additional volume (at the cost of the proposed service homeowners), but does not include the Resort in their service area and does not provide for any bulk transmission rates or other commercial rates in their application. This question was not answered in the prior case and needs to be addressed immediately.

Bottom line – This application needs to be denied immediately and not allowed to proceed.

I cannot put into words all the objections I have for this unwarranted and unwanted attempt to force a high cost, unjustified, inadequate wastewater removal service, by a politically astute/active 'private' party (with a big profit incentive) down our throats.

Again, I object to the proposal under docket #20240032-SU and ask the Public Service Commission to deny the application for original certificate of authorization for this proposed central sewer system.

Thank you

Michael Riley
220 Kettle Harbor Dr
PO Box 3554
Placida, FL 33946
mikenriley@comcast.net

Antonia Hover

From: Janice Schroder <carpartjanice@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:01 PM
To: Office of Commissioner Passidomo
Subject: RE. Docket # 20240032-SU

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I am opposed to the sewer proposal by Environmental Utilities, LLC

My name is Janice Schroder.

I live on Little Gasparilla Island.
I have a septic system.
It works fine.

I do not want the proposed sewer system, which is substandard to the septic system I have and own. It will require more work and money to maintain than my current septic system.

It will force me to pay a high price to “hookup” and then an expensive monthly fee.

It will force me to purchase a generator, since the proposed system is electricity dependent. Without electricity, putrid contents could leach out into the open. Consider how this would attract rats and disease.

It will tear up my personal property, including my vegetation. Who will replace and return my property to its pre construction state?

On Little Gasparilla Island, we use electric golf carts to haul our groceries and supplies from the docks to our homes.
Electric motors are located underneath the carts.

Many carts will not survive the mud, trenches and puddles from the construction. This will add another layer of frustration and expense to islanders.

As a community, we are still rebuilding our beautiful island to the way it was before hurricane Ian hit us so hard.

The sewer construction will tear up our entire privately owned island and ruin our fragile roads. Who will rebuild the roads?

I believe, for many, it would be devastating, both emotionally and financially, to deal with the negative impact of this proposed construction.

This bad idea has been turned down by islanders once before.
How many times do we have to say “no”?

I request that the PSC **deny EU’s application for wastewater** service.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Janice Schroder

Email: janice@schroder.net

Sent from my iPad

Antonia Hover

From: Sarah Daniel <athomethomasville119@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 1:53 PM
To: Records Clerk
Cc: Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay
Subject: Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket 20240032-SU

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Dear Commissioner Clerk,

I live at 450 Bocilla Dr. on Don Pedro Island. We have been living there for the last 7 years. and have been coming to the Island for the last 27 years.

As you know, the cost of the initial installation is over \$12,000, and will probably be more. There is a cost to the owners to connect the system to the house, and a generator to buy and install, and a deposit to begin the service. We simply cannot afford these costs.

In addition, there will be huge disruption to the roads, which will impact the wildlife, including gopher turtles, which are endangered. It will disrupt the intercoastal waterway.

We have seen no reliable data that doing this will have a positive impact on the environment, rather we believe it will be very disruptive and have a negative impact on the environment and local wildlife.

Environmental Utilities LLC has no prior experience, and has already been denied approval. The island residents have been against this from the beginning. Why is this being debated again?

Please stop this silliness. Enough already.

Sincerely,

Tim and Sarah Daniel
450 Bocilla Drive,
Placida (Don Pedro Island)
229-200-2199