

Mary Ann Kelly & Luther O. Waller
8714 King Street, Dock #42
Little Gasparilla Island
Placida, FL 33946

April 15, 2024

Florida Public Service Commission
Commission Clerk
c/o Office of Commission Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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2024 APR 29 AM 10:49
COMMISSION
CLERK

RE: Application for Original Wastewater in Charlotte County, FL by Environmental Utilities, LLC Docket # 20240032-SU

We are homeowners of a single-family residence for the past 24 years on Little Gasparilla Island located on King Street. **We are steadfastly opposed to Environmental Utilities, LLC providing any central sewer service to our island.**

The proposed design of the system does not carry away solid materials, as we will be required to maintain a “holding” tank for solids. This is deemed to not be an improvement over the current septic system our family has well maintained over the life of our property. Not an improvement environmentally or with regard to functionality. When I flush my toilet, all product should exit my property (and the island) and go to a central system processing affluent plant. Not hold on another tank on my property.

The initial cost estimates presented with the system are poorly defined, leaving us owners open to costs increases as the system developer incurs them. This is not operating in the sunshine, as the state of Florida is compelled to operate. The initial cost estimates, as presented, both upfront and for ongoing service charges - *are too much for my family to bear.* This is highlighted as we struggle to carry inflated costs for property insurances (flood, windstorm, and homeowners), increasing Charlotte County property taxes, and **our ever increasing private water supply utility service charges. This is also on top of the FACT that we are still rebuilding our property after destruction from Hurricane Ian!**

The experience and ability of Environmental Utilities, LLC is questionable. The barrier island community is a harsh and inhospitable environment for utilities. Power (FPL), phone/internet service are constantly going "down" on the island with major companies sending teams in for repair of services. Environmental Utilities is not a major operator with solid infrastructure support behind them. Repairing a sewer line in a fragile coastal ecosystem is of paramount importance. No real mention of how this system is to be serviced/backstopped.

Please, no central service for Little Gasparilla Island.

Respectfully submitted,

 
Mary Ann Kelly (wife) & Luther O. Waller (husband)

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