

**Charlie Smith**

---

**From:** Betty Leland  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket #20240032  
**Attachments:** Docket #20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU Urgent Request to Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Application for Wastewater Service; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; RE: Docket #20240032-SU; Docket #20240032-SU; OBJECTION TO DOCKET NO. 20240032-SU

Good Afternoon:

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](mailto:bleland@psc.state.fl.us)  
(850) 413-6024

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Paul Holmes <pbholmes0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 2:59 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:** 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,

We respectfully request that the PSC deny Environmental Utilities application for wastewater service to Little Gasparilla Island, Don Pedro Island and Knight Island. About two years ago EU(Environment Utilities) application for the same area was denied by the PSC on the grounds that there was no need for the service. Nothing has changed since the earlier application except that we are in much worse condition financially due to hurricane Ian. The Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan designates us as a Rural Service Area. It mandates on-site septic systems for Rural Service Areas. If it prohibits the County from installing a central sewer system, why is it okay for a privately owned utility to install a central sewer system? On-site septic systems are a way to control pollution and density. Does the County want to see high rises on the vulnerable barrier islands? These islands are the last vestiges of Old Florida on the coast.

The average water and sewer bill per month excluding taxes in Florida, based on 4000 gallons, is \$68.14. Our average water bill excluding sewer on Little Gasparilla Island is over \$110.00 per month. This water is brought to us by Environmental Utilities. The monthly bill for sewer only is estimated by EU to be \$263.57. Therefore our monthly water and sewer bill would be \$373.57. THIS FIGURE - \$373.57 - IS PROHIBITIVELY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE MONTHLY WATER/SEWER BILL IN FLORIDA OF \$68.14!!!

THE UPFRONT COSTS FOR THE CENTRAL SEWER SYSTEM ARE ALSO OUTRAGEOUS!!! There will be a \$12,000 initial hook up fee plus \$1097 for a sewer lateral installation fee plus an initial deposit of \$414. That \$13,411 is NOT PRO RATED!!!

Sadly a low-pressure sewer system must be pumped out on a regular basis. At this time a pump out costs \$1600. Also the homeowner owns the pump and is responsible for its maintenance. What is the life of the pump? How often must it be replaced? The cost of a new pump? Then there is the necessity to have a generator to prevent sewage backup on our property in case of a lengthy power outage which there surely will be.

Again we respectfully request that the PSC deny Environmental Utilities application for wastewater service to Little Gasparilla Island, Don Pedro Island and Knight Island. We invite you to visit the islands and see one of the last pristine pieces of coastline in the state of Florida. Please help us keep it that way.

Respectfully,

Paul and Barbara Holmes  
Full Time Residents For 30 Years  
9496 Alborado  
Little Gasparilla Island

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Dave Irby Sr. <gpirby75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 5:46 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

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

Am I mistaken or has the PSC previously rejected this application after homeowner public hearings indicated serious negative issues with this applicant and the project as a whole? Considerable expense has already been encountered by homeowners objecting to the proposed Waste Water Certificate award to EU.

Has D.E.P. determined that a sewer system is the only way to manage the Island's sanitation problem? Home owners have not experienced problems or requested changes to the current system.

In my opinion it would be a major disservice to Island residents to award a project of this magnitude to a private contractor. Let alone a contractor with no experience in an undertaking of this scope and effect on homeowner financial responsibility. Approval of a waste water only approach itself is a major mistake when attempting to install and maintain such a system on a barrier island with only access by barge.

The inherent installation costs for replacing old septic systems and future maintenance pumping are prohibitively expensive for Island residents as preliminary estimates have shown. If sanitation issues cannot be avoided by enforcing the current requirements for safe septic systems, the only sensible approach would be full sewage disposal under the auspices of Charlotte county with a one time hookup fee and use rates comparable to those on the mainland. The technical design, installation and financial requirements must be under the control of Charlotte County.

We are 30 year residents and homeowners who have had no problems with our septic system. Please don't price us off the Island. We strongly request that this application for a waste water certificate application be denied.

William D. and Melba J. Irby  
[Gpirby75@gmail.com](mailto:gpirby75@gmail.com)  
175 N. Gulf Blvd, Palm Island  
Placida, FL 33946  
(941) 662 5583

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Kendall Reeves <kknow123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:38 AM  
**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:** Docket #20240032-SU

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

Good afternoon everyone! My name is Kendall Reeves and own a condo on Don Pedro Island along with my wife at

301 S Gulf Blvd.  
Unit 19  
Placida, FL 33946

What a wonderful example a particular industry is going through right now to reinforce the islands opinion of sewer installation. Overall, car manufacturers did not listen to their customers when making big plans for electric vehicle production and it is costing them dearly.

We received legal notice that a private company , Environmental Utilities LLC (EU), desires to install sewer on the island and we wish to extend our disagreement with it.

- 1) It seems strange that we have not been asked, again, if we felt sewer was needed, which we don't. Yet EU is trying AGAIN to force a business model on Islanders strictly for their profit where no need or request for the service exists. (Similar to the electric vehicle example)
- 2) There is concern that this private for profit entity will again present false and misleading information to you regarding COMPLETE costs to each homeowner as well as environmental impact to the island. This occurred on their last submittal. Example: EU would be asking for an Easement or Right of Way to each property without cost to EU. Plus expenses associated with the next item #3.
- 3) Some undiscussed costs are associated with the amount of power outages the island incurs and hurricane downtime. Extended periods of time without power requires an outside source to deal with waste treatment. This translates into each home, multixpliplex and duplex needing a generator. (Many are vacation homes) This would be additional expense as well as in some cases literally no place to put the propane tank for running it. An environmental disaster just waiting to happen. Additional to this particular topic is noise factor associated with maintaining a generator. If you own one, as we do in Venice, you know you have to turn it on weekly for approximately 15 minutes to keep everything functioning properly. The noise factor associated with this many generators on a relatively small geographic area on an ongoing basis completely goes against what the island does... attracts tourism which brings in revenue for the county.
- 4) We are not interested in being a guinea pig for someone's attempt at getting into this line of work. Major thought and planning has to be given and we anticipate as the last time they filed, that this responsibility would be handed off to another entity.
- 5) Similar to last time EU petitioned, there has been no water testing to prove the need for this service.

More can be said and discussed if you wish to get into the weeds of the project, but hopefully you grasp our perspective on having something forced on us with little to no thought other than EU's desire to make a profit. Please deny the request early so as not to waste people's time dealing with someone's frivolous idea for making money.

Respectfully,

Kendall Reeves

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Tyler Erickson <Tyler@midlandinfosys.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 4:48 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo  
**Cc:** Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay  
**Subject:** RE. Docket #20240032-SU

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

Please deny EU's application for wastewater service.  
It was denied in 2020 and there is not a need.

Thanks!

Tyler Erickson  
111 North Gulf Blvd (Palm Island)  
Placida Florida 33946

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** David Cohen <david.paul.cohen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 10:24 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

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

To the all the Clerk and all the Commissioners of the FL PSC,

My name is David Cohen and I live, full time, at 8 Pointe Way, Don Pedro Island. This location is within the area proposed for service by this application. My phone number is 201-600-1450 and I would be happy to have a polite conversation about this matter if you so desire. My email address is [davidpaulcohen@gmail.com](mailto:davidpaulcohen@gmail.com) if you wish to contact me that way. I have had a residence on the island since 1990.

I am writing to respectfully ask that you deny EU's application for wastewater service.

I am further asking that EU be prohibited from ever applying for providing wastewater service in the future.

Only a few things have changed since I last wrote the commission with the same request.

### What changed?

- The county has now changed their mind about sewer on the islands attempting a legal workaround to their own Comprehensive plan.
- The claim is that while the Comprehensive Plan prohibits the County from installing central sewer, but not a privately owned utility. This so obviously defeats the purpose of the existing comprehensive plan designation and is an example of politics at its worst, encouraging development in increasingly shrinking protected areas with a nod and a wink.

- If the county truly wants sewers on these barrier islands, they must attempt to change the land use designation and do the work themselves, not hide behind an obvious backdoor move.
- Surprise! There are now developers who desire the sewer system to be installed. What could possibly be the reason behind this? By convincing the county to skirt the comprehensive land use plan allowing for increased AND ALREADY PLANNED higher density development. This privately owned, for-profit limited liability company will maximize their profits on the backs of island residents (as they have previously declared they will apply for the maximum rates and increase legally allowed).

**What has not changed:**

- There is no need for this service.
  - There has been no evidence provided that supports a need for service in the proposed service area. Expert witnesses at the last Administrative Hearing held by the county commission refuted the arguments that EU put forward supporting the need for service
  - There is zero scientifically proven need for this service. No water quality testing has been done in our area to prove any water quality impact coming from the barrier islands.
  - The community at large does not desire such a service.
- Highly dangerous environmental impact.
  - During the implementation of this project:
    - There would be immense environmental disruption of the many endangered species that inhabit these islands as well as migratory species.
  - After implementation of this project:
    - Based on the specific type of implementation being considered, an event that causes a lack of electricity, fuel and prevents or severely restricts island access such as another hurricane Ian would spell an environmental disaster for the entire group of islands. Please note that the **large existing gravity operated tanks currently in use would be replaced by very small tanks** (yes, there would still be holding tanks with the new service) that rely on continuous access to end-user supplied power to operate. **IMAGINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER OF THE ENTIRE ISLAND COMPLEX WITH ZERO SEPTIC**



MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME SUCH AS THE PERIOD FOLLOWING HURRICANE IAN.

- Quality of life impact for residents.
  - The combination of post-storm rebuilds, new home construction, and tourist traffic during season has made wait lines at the ferry both unpredictable and outrageous. Now, consider the heavy equipment and materials transport needed to construct an island-wide central sewer system. And how long it will take to build.
  - The sand roads (not dirt roads) do not lend themselves to manholes as the paved roads on the mainland do. The impact to the sand roads, both public and private, have not been explored or mitigated.
- The cost to homeowners. Do standard mainland sewers incur such cost? No.
  - Enormously more expensive, initially and on an on-going basis, than sewer systems on the mainland to the citizens impacted.
  - Grossly underestimated monthly costs based on erroneous average estimated household water usage.
  - No access to gray water systems to offset landscaping water usage.
  - Based on my personal water usage, the total for water and sewer service would often exceed \$500 / month.
  - There is a whole host of related costs unique to this application that place an undue burden on island residents including by not limited to:
    - Cost of pump-out and maintenance of the **new system tank**. Isn't the purpose of a sewer system to prevent tanks filling up and needing pump outs?
    - Cost of removal of existing materials involving very high barge fees.
    - Cost of rehoming protected wildlife.
    - Cost of electric installation for the system, potentially requiring new or added panels.
    - Cost of replacing anything more than the "basic landscaping" that the hook-up agreement states will be replaced.

- In the event of another bad storm or lengthy power outage, residents will need to have a generator continually running to prevent sewage backup on their property.
- EU's existing troubled track record as a company as well as a lack of experience owning a wastewater utility is a significant red flag. Any claim by EU to the contrary should be investigated thoroughly. Combined with the lack of county or state oversight of initial installation, ongoing operations as well as the potential for a true environmental disaster with no plan for mitigation being submitted and agreed upon should disqualify this application. This would not be a public service, it would be a public disaster.
- There are unexplored alternatives to a sewer system on the barrier island, including but not limited to:
  - Different types of septic systems that act as treatment plants.
  - County required inspections and maintenance of existing systems along with associated fees for non-compliance.
- There is also the 'elephant in the room' requirement for the Palm Island Resort to fix issues with their own privately operated sewage system. While the resort would not directly use the septic systems being contemplated, the costs of hooking up their system to the county via this private central line would be completely passed on to the citizens targeted on Don Pedro Island.

There are many more reasons, but I am confident that my fellow islanders will write in and, if needed, speak before the commission as they did the last time EU made essentially the identical application.

Once again, I ask that you deny the EU's application for wastewater service.

I am further asking that EU be prohibited from ever applying for providing wastewater service in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Thank You,  
David Cohen



## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Kirsten Karnett Hosman <k2hkh2hh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 11:59 AM  
**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:** Docket #20240032-SU

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

April 9, 2024

Public Service Commission

RE: Docket #20240032-SU  
Environmental Utilities, LLC  
Central Sewer Installation Application for Palm Island (a.k.a. Knight Island)

Members of the Public Service Commission,

This communication is to inform you that we **HIGHLY** object to the Environment Utilities, LLC application to install central sewer on Palm Island, also known as Knight Island. This application and service is not needed or wanted by the great majority of residents on Palm Island and Don Pedro Island. As property owners of multiple properties on Palm Island, we feel this is an arbitrary and capricious request that will NOT benefit home and lot owners.

There is absolutely no need for a central sewer system. This sewer system does nothing except add additional costs for property owners, and does not alleviate the need for septic systems. The only entity a central sewer system will enrich is the Palm Island Resort. Many property owners can not afford a \$12,000 hook up cost or the \$1,100 cost for a sewer lateral installation fee. In addition, residents will be burdened with higher costs for monthly billing associated with the central sewer, and will still need to pay a separate monthly water bill.

In addition, there is NO indication or documentation that determines a central sewer service is necessary on Palm Island. Again, the only entity that such service benefits is Palm Island Resort. Also, a central sewer service only serves to advance future substantial high density development. Please understand island residents do not want additional traffic or the congestion that this project would cause both in constructing the system and from future short-term visitors.

Granting a property easement to Environment Utilities LLC without an owner receiving compensation is anathema. This is not a contract with Environment Utilities LLC that we want to enter into for any of the properties we own. In addition, we question the stability of Environmental Utilities as the principals have never owned or managed such a company.

Finally, there has been no indication as to where the central sewer lines will actually be installed. It is quite evident however, that wherever the lines would be placed will damage landscaping, impact the habitat of native animals, and potentially destroy homeowners' landscaping.

Please do not let this project go forward. It will ruin Palm Island and Don Pedro Island.

Sincerely,

Kirsten and Stephen Hosman  
341 N Gulf Blvd. Palm Island  
[k2hhk2hh@gmail.com](mailto:k2hhk2hh@gmail.com)

Properties owned that would be negatively impacted by sewer system installation:

Titled as Pelican Palms LLC (Stephen L. Hosman, President)

270 N. Gulf Blvd.

330 N. Gulf Blvd.

340 N. Gulf Blvd.

360 N. Gulf Blvd.

1/2 owner interest in 420 N. Gulf Blvd.

Titled as Panama 341 LLC (Stephen L. Hosman, President)

310 N. Gulf Blvd.

Titled as Stephen L. Hosman

341 N. Gulf Blvd.

351 N. Gulf Blvd.

441 N. Gulf Blvd.

451 N. Gulf Blvd.

1/3 owner interest in 420 N. Gulf Blvd.

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Mike G <miketothegreen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 8:50 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk  
**Cc:** Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Fay  
**Subject:** RE. Docket #20240032-SU Urgent Request to Deny Environmental Utilities, LLC Application for Wastewater Service

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

RE: Docket #20240032-SU

Dear Clerk of the Commission,

I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing to you with a sense of urgency and conviction regarding the application submitted by Environmental Utilities, LLC for a certificate to provide wastewater service in Charlotte County.

As a concerned citizen and owner of multiple properties on Don Pedro Island, I stand in staunch opposition to the approval of this application. My objections are not rooted in mere personal preference, but rather in a deep-seated commitment to preserving the integrity of our beloved barrier islands and safeguarding the well-being of our community.

Allow me to articulate the compelling reasons behind my fervent request for the denial of this application:

- \*\*Violation of Comp Plan Mandates\*\*:** The Rural Service Area designation, as outlined in our Comprehensive Plan, explicitly mandates the use of on-site septic systems. Any deviation from this requirement not only disregards established regulations but also threatens to disrupt the delicate balance of our island ecosystem.
- \*\*Lack of Environmental Assessment\*\*:** Environmental Utilities, LLC has failed to provide any substantive evidence demonstrating the necessity or environmental impact of their proposed wastewater system. The absence of a comprehensive environmental study is deeply concerning and underscores the recklessness of this endeavor.
- \*\*Threat to Wildlife Habitat\*\*:** Don Pedro Island boasts a rich and diverse wildlife habitat, which stands at risk of irreparable harm should the proposed wastewater system be implemented. We cannot afford to jeopardize the delicate balance of our ecosystem in pursuit of profit-driven agendas.
- \*\*Property Rights and Privacy Concerns\*\*:** Granting access to my property for the installation of this wastewater system would constitute a blatant infringement upon my property rights and privacy. I vehemently oppose any measure that would compromise the sanctity of my land without just cause or consent.
- \*\*Financial Burden on Taxpayers and Property Owners\*\*:** The financial implications of this project are deeply troubling. Taxpayer dollars should not be squandered on ill-conceived ventures that serve the interests of private entities at the expense of the public good. Additionally, the prospect of shouldering the burden of initial

installation costs and ongoing service fees is untenable and unjustifiable.

In light of these compelling arguments, I implore you to uphold the principles of environmental stewardship and community welfare by unequivocally denying Environmental Utilities, LLC's application for wastewater service. Our collective future depends on responsible decision-making that prioritizes sustainability, integrity, and the preservation of our natural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I remain hopeful that you will act in the best interests of our community and our environment.

Respectfully,  
Michael Green, MD  
13 Bayshore Circle  
17 Bayshore Circle  
Placida, FL 33946

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Valerie Hance <polohut@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:24 AM  
**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

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

As the property owners of 41 Bayshore Circle, Palm Island, we have recently received a legal notice from Environmental Utilities LLC. The notice stated Environmental Utilities' desire to install a central sewer system on the Islands.

We do not support this application. As seven-year residents of the Island, we do not feel this application is needed nor in any way proposing an improvement. Our system and many of our neighbors' systems are less than 10 years old. All of the systems are complying with the Charlotte County Septic System inspection code requirements.

The Environmental Utilities LLC application contains unnecessary costs. These costs represent an unnecessary burden with no added benefit to the Island families. We already pay an added cost for household water due to the system being privately owned. Our water is simply Charlotte County water with the private company's surcharge added on. The proposed Island sewer system will be the same situation.

Our goal should be to improve our quality of life, not replacing a system that is working. Appreciate your continued support of working for the best Charlotte County quality of life.

Valerie and Edward Hance  
41 Bayshore Circle



## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Accon Marine <erica@acconmarine.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 1:35 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

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

Hello,

I am writing today to strongly oppose the application by Environmental Utilities, LLC to install central sewer to Knight Island. We own a home at 470 N Gulf Blvd on Knight Island.

We completely lost the house in Hurricane Ian. It is still not rebuilt. We are already under a lot of financial stress, and have already paid for a brand new septic system. We should not have to bear another, incredibly hefty cost to connect to sewer. With central sewer, we would be at the mercy of a for-profit utility company, instead of being self sufficient.

Despite the house being destroyed to the point of needing to be torn down, there was no breach of the septic system. Can the same be said for sewer when the next strong hurricane comes through? Also, it is my understanding that Environmental Utilities, LLC has never owned a wastewater utility before. Please do not make us a guinea pig so that these people can make money. We do not want sewer and have never requested it.

Best Regards,  
Erica Ring & Bernd Czipri

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** John Adams <jda600@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 7, 2024 12:54 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk  
**Cc:** Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay; Office of Chairman La Rosa  
**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 Sirs,

I am John Adams, the Managing Partner of Shere Properties, LLC which owns Unit B at 221 North Gulf Boulevard that is affected by the proposed central sewer system on Don Pedro Island and I am writing to **object to the Application for Original Certificate of Authorization** that is the subject of **Docket #20240032-SU** and to formally ask that the Florida Public Service Commission **deny** Environmental Utilities, LLC application for a wastewater certificate.

My **arguments in opposition** to the application by Environmental Utilities, LLC for a wastewater certificate for a central sewer, are as follows:

- 1) Neither myself nor any other homeowner on Don Pedro island have requested a central sewer.
- 2) Equally, the need for such a service has not yet been demonstrated and no water quality testing has been done in the proposed service area to prove the need for sewer.
- 3) This proposed project brings the potential for destruction of habitat and interference with island wildlife and in particular to endangered species such as the gopher tortoise.
- 4) The environmental risk aspects of such a system have not been evaluated and the risk of a major central sewer leak with a subaqueous crossing is greater than the risk of one or more septic systems developing minor leaks.
- 5) The applicant has ZERO technical experience of installing and managing such an undertaking. In addition, the applicant has not addressed how the system will be serviced in the event of failure during a storm or other adverse conditions nor how sewage back-up into homes will be prevented in times of disruption of power or service. Additionally there is no proposed grandfathering of septic systems regardless of age or condition.
- 6) The financial experience of the applicant's management is extremely poor and, it has been reported, comprises an individual that is a discharged bankrupt therefore there is a high risk of financial failure.
- 7) The applicant is not a contractor that has won a bid to install a sewer and therefore there is no "contract" and no single point of general oversight neither is there a performance bond required and so customers will have no single point of recourse in the event of cost overruns or project failure.
- 8) The rates proposed by the applicant are excessive and far in excess of those currently being paid by like communities and are **approximately double** those that a ratepayer on the mainland in Rotonda pays per month for **water and wastewater combined**.

I believe Charlotte County and the State need to re-evaluate this whole project and, should it ultimately **be proven** to be necessary, a Utility District should be established to Install and operate any recommended system rather than Environmental Utilities, LLC, which is a private, for-profit start-up company.

Regards,

J. D. Adams  
For and on Behalf of Shere Properties LLC  
[\(1\) 832-758-7479](tel:832-758-7479) (mobile)  
[\(1\) 281-354-4641](tel:281-354-4641) (office)  
[jda600@hotmail.com](mailto:jda600@hotmail.com)

## Charlie Smith

---

**From:** Dena Craig <apollodena@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 6, 2024 4:29 PM  
**To:** Records Clerk  
**Cc:** Office of Chairman La Rosa; Office of Commissioner Clark; comissioner.passidomo@psc.state.fl.us; Office of Commissioner Graham; Office of Commissioner Fay  
**Subject:** OBJECTION TO DOCKET NO. 20240032-SU

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

April 5, 2024

Commision Clerk  
Office of Commision Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commision  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee Florida32399-0850

CC> Our elected county commissioners: LaRosa, Clark, Passidoma. Graham, Fay

Docket No.20240032-SU

To whom it may concern,

Our names are Edward and Dena Craig. We own a home at 261 Bocilla dr located on Don Pedro Island. This is a barrier island located in Charlotte County.

We received notice on April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 from a company, Environmental Utilities LLC filing an application for a certificate to provide wastewater service to our island and other nearby areas.

We would like to officially file our OBJECTION to this application.

**PLEASE DENY ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES APPLICATION FOR WASTE WATER SERVICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

First, it just amazes us that a private for-profit company could just come in and file an application to force our community into something we have not asked for and have proven is not needed. Our community just went through a 2 year battle with this company and won. It cost a tremendous amount of money in legal fees. And now here we go again. Is there not anything to stop them from repeating this?

Again we repeat we OBJECT!!!

The final order released after our last battle by the PSC stated “noting the level of opposition to the Environmental Utilities’s proposal by its prospective customers, we find that customers are highly unlikely to voluntarily connect to the Environmental Utilities's system. Expert witnesses in the last administrative hearing refuted the arguments Environmental Utilities put forward supporting the need for service. Please go through and read all of the documents from the last time Environmental Utilities tried to take over our islands and force us into something we do not need or want. There is a reason it was not approved!!

No one has requested this service!!!!!! We do not want or need it!!!!

Our island is such a quaint little place. Our barrier islands are in the rural service area. The comp plan mandates on-site septic systems for the rural service area. Now they are insisting that the comp plan prohibits the county from installing a central sewer but not a privately owned utility. How is this right, fair or even legal?

There have been no environmental reasons or problems for us to be forced into this. We would face forced cost ,loss of property for easements, and traffic congestion.

Our area is just recovering from IAN. Many of us are still rebuilding. We do not need to face this expensive fight again!!!! Please consider our community's objection to this and don't approve this application.

They are a private company just interested in profit, It is also our understanding that Environmental Utilities lacks experience of owning a wastewater utility. Is that not a huge red flag???

I thought this was a democratic country where we have the right to make our own decisions, There are no proven environmental reasons or dangers why we need sewers on our island . Just because a company decides they want to take over and force us into this is just mind boggling. Especially the fact that we spent so much money last time to fight this and now we have to do this all over. Is there no end to this?

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dena and Edward Craig

261 Bocilla dr

Mailing

17140 Bethlehem rd

Mulberry Fl 33860

813-767-4571

[Apollodena@gmail.com](mailto:Apollodena@gmail.com)