

**Antonia Hover**

**From:** Antonia Hover on behalf of Records Clerk  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 9:22 AM  
**To:** 'Joan Der'  
**Cc:** Consumer Contact  
**Subject:** RE: Docket #20200226-SU

Good Morning, Joan Der.

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200226, 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*

**From:** Joan Der <joan.der7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>; Office of Commissioner Clark <Commissioner.Clark@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner La Rosa <Commissioner.LaRosa@psc.state.fl.us>; Office of Commissioner Passidomo <Commissioner.Passidomo@psc.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** Re: Docket #20200226-SU

Commissioners,  
From Joan Der, wife of Robert Der at 171 s. Gulf Blvd. On Don Pedro. Please deny the permit to EU.

As more details are uncovered, I need to emphasize the issue of why we must deny EU their request. Our island has not been a source of leakage in Florida. This sewer installation could provide maybe an inconsequential impact of a clean water solution for a gigantic cost, grief, and inconvenience to individual owners. There isn't much land to install a new tank in a spot apart from the septic tank while transitioning. Will we be without sewage disposal for a spell? Replacing a perfectly fine tank and drainage with grinders and pipes run by electricity prone to outages is not an improvement. Our individual septic systems are much safer than new lines to carry the waste water from curvy shell roads (which are finally graded by the County) across two lagoons and the inter coastal waterway. The intercoastal waterway is used continuously by the car access ferry a minimum of 16 hours a day, subject to boat traffic and strong tides. Isn't a drainage septic system servicing this unique bridgeless barrier island a wiser solution?

We already pay the highest rates for water in Florida through a private business seeking every rate hike possible. Must we also be subjected to the excessive rates threatened by EU for negligible improvement of waste waters? I don't want EU to reap a premium rate for what has historically been their problematic and subpar service. There is no incentive for efficiency in installation. If sewer must be installed, I want normal fees as any other Charlotte County taxpayers. I want a reputable provider. Deny EU. Thanks for reading.

On Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:50 AM Joan Der <[joan.der7@gmail.com](mailto:joan.der7@gmail.com)> wrote:

I am Joan Der and I live with my husband at 171 S. gulf Blvd. on DPI. I am formally requesting that the **PSC DENY EU's** application for wastewater service.

I wish to have Charlotte County provide the municipal wastewater service accorded other taxpayers, not abdicate to a novice, financially unstable private company like EU.

1. **NEED FOR SERVICE** (environmental impacts, development concerns) I take care of my septic system and other must do the same, given the frequency of septic cleanout trucks I see on the ferry. Palm Island Resort has it's own waste treatment system so they should not be allowed to drag us into a contract. Don Pedro and Knight Islands are low-density residences. There aren't any buildings with owners living above each other. There is no commercial activity other than the Resort with its own sewer. We are a gentle, peaceful island already focused on conservancy. Lake Okeechobee releases are more problematic for water than our tiny island. A leak of wastewater under the inter coastal is riskier than perhaps a few residential leaks. DENY EU.
2. **FINANCIAL ABILITY** of the applicant. I met a former DPI resident at the ferry and I updated him on the upcoming sewer decision. When he found out Jack Boyer was behind the effort, he recounted troubles. When working for Jack, he resorted to receiving cash-only payment. The financial attachment to the PSC application is a blank tax return. No financial info is shown. Can EU be trusted with millions? Jack's conversations with other islanders indicate EU wants to maximize any charges possible. Can EU finance a project to completion? Do we deserve exorbitant charges to line EU pockets? DENY EU.
3. **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE** of the applicant My friend lived through the treated water distribution to Little Gasparilla Island. She had green bathtub water. The installation flooded her septic tank. She had to move out for a month. She repeatedly called Boyer and NEVER got a response. She has despises Boyer to this day. If treated water is handled in this reckless manner, what mishandling will happen with wastewater? Do contractors understand the difficulties of bringing equipment and workers over on a ferry? Will they observe the weight limits on our one-lane bridge? Who will choose these specialized contractors since EU has few employees? Does EU have the expertise to pick better contractors than they did for treated water for Little Gasparilla? They don't have my trust. HURRY and DENY EU
4. **Fair and reasonable rates** EU has already tried to apply as a private utility without providing rates. EU will charge the maximum. Why should I be charged an exorbitant premium for a complex project shrouded with doubtful design, installation and operation. We already fare unfavorably to other Charlotte County taxpayers in many respects for services.

I am concerned about the need to handle the waste processing at each house with the individual tank capacity at 60 gallons. Each house is projected to need 190 gallons per day in the application. It has been suggested that we will need an upgrade to our electric panel. But what worries me is need of a generator and propane to prepare for the frequent and/or unexpected electrical outages. This would make us riskier for fires. Can our Fire Department team on the island handle 2-3 fires that could occur during a short outage and when there are days of outage caused by severe wind?

I am not saying sewers are never a good idea. But there is not a need now. And if a sewer is in our future, please have Charlotte County provide the municipal service at a fair rate afforded other county residents. Not a novice, charging exorbitant fees for inferior or checkered services.

Would you trust your waste system to EU? Please Deny EU.

Joan Der. [Joan.der7@gmail.com](mailto:Joan.der7@gmail.com)

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