

**Charlie Smith**

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**From:** Betty Leland  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 9:20 AM  
**To:** Commissioner Correspondence  
**Subject:** Docket #20240032  
**Attachments:** Docket #20240032 - Objection Letter; DOCKET NO. 20240032-SU; Docket Number 20240032 ; RE. Docket #20240032-SU

Good Morning:

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

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**From:** Harry Vaughn <harrytvaughn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 9:03 AM  
**To:** clerk@psc.state.fl; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith; Office of Commissioner Graham  
**Cc:** Harry Vaughn  
**Subject:** Docket #20240032 - Objection Letter

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Dear Commissioners,

I am Harry Vaughn, owner of Unit K10 at LGI, 9400 Little Gasparilla Island, within the Hideaway Bay Beach Club Condominiums (HBBC). I respectfully urge you to deny Environmental Utilities' (EU) application for a Certificate of Authorization to install sewers on our island.

It is deeply troubling that, despite the EU's initial representation excluding HBBC—and by extension, the 132 families who reside here—from its proposed service area, the EU has now unilaterally modified its project. On May 2, 2024, Hideaway Bay submitted an objection to the EU's wastewater certification, and on May 13, 2024, the EU amended its application to remove HBBC and Placida Beach condominiums from its service area. In that filing, the EU stated it was never its intent to apply its septic-to-sewer project to our community. Yet, in its recent rebuttal testimony and technical hearing, the EU introduced significant, last-minute changes to its wastewater collection system design. Notably, the EU now proposes two new force mains connecting the system to the mainland, including an 8-inch pressure main that will cross HBBC's property—a stark departure from its earlier plan of a single force main routed from Don Pedro/Little Knight Island across the Cape Haze peninsula.

These modifications have profound implications for our community. The new proposal not only contradicts EU's prior representations but also incorporates a proposed stub-out for a future connection to HBBC and Placida Beach condominiums. This is particularly alarming given that our interests were explicitly excluded from the project scope. The revised plan could jeopardize our existing wastewater treatment facility—an asset managed by Hideaway Bay under a permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection—and impose unforeseen financial and operational burdens on our community. Construction on our septic plant drain field could force a shutdown of our wastewater service, compel us to connect to the EU system without proper due process, and expose us to unknown hookup and decommissioning costs.

Furthermore, the EU's failure to notify HBBC of these substantial changes is a direct violation of the due process owed to us. Despite the clear and material impact on our property and our community's interests, the EU neither addressed these concerns during the hearings nor provided proper notice of these hearings, further denying us the opportunity to respond.

In light of these serious issues—the abrupt and unnotified modifications to the EU's proposal, the direct threat to our existing infrastructure, and the potential for significant financial burdens—I respectfully request that you deny the EU's application in order to protect the rights and interests of all HBBC owners.

Sincerely,

Harry Vaughn

## Charlie Smith

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**From:** KALLEN112@tampabay.rr.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 9:01 AM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith; Office of Commissioner Graham  
**Subject:** DOCKET NO. 20240032-SU  
**Importance:** High

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Commissioners,

AGAIN, we implore you to DENY EU's Application for sewer on Don Pedro Island and surrounding barrier islands in connection with Don Pedro Island.

There is NO need for central sewer systems on the island. As indicated in numerous emails to you in the past, the financial impact and ecological impact do NOT warrant a sewer system. We, as well as MANY island residents, are AGAINST sewer on the island.

Please deny EU's application on April 1, 2025.

Thank you for your assistance and listening to YOUR VOTERS!  
Greg and Kelley Allen  
331 Bocilla Dr, Placida, FL 33946

## Charlie Smith

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**From:** Joel Johnson <jejohnson1069@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 8:48 AM  
**To:** clerk@psc.state.fl  
**Cc:** Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith; Office of Commissioner Graham  
**Subject:** Docket Number 20240032

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Dear Commissioners,

My name is Joel Johnson. My wife, Erika Johnson and I are full-time residents of Little Gasparilla Island at 9400 Little Gasparilla Island Unit F8 which is part of the Hideaway Bay Beach Club condos. (HBBC).

I am writing this letter to ask you to **deny** the application by Environmental Utilities for a certificate to install sewers on our island.

EU made the change to the location of the waste water transmission line from Don Pedro State Park to the Hideaway Bay Beach Club, HBBC property. Even though we were excluded from the scope of this application on May 13, 2024 (Doc # 03001-2024) by EU's attorney, this change directly affects every one of the owners at HBBC. We were not notified of this substantial change to the application. This is a direct violation of one of the tenets by which the PSC should base their decision - proper notification of all involved parties. This change to the application without notification denies the owners at Hideaway Bay Beach Club (HBBC) of our due process to be able to fight this change.

The letter from the HBBC lawyer, Nick Porter dated February 28, 2025 (Doc #01210-2025) also states HBBC's position in this matter. I was extremely disappointed the PSC staff did not take into account this oversight in notification in their recommendation.

**132 Families are being denied their due process because of the change made by EU without notification.**

If EU plans to use the model as indicated in the 2017 CC SMP, the pump house for the sewer will be built on the HBBC Septic Plant drain field. Building anything on our drain field will result in the community being shut down completely while the construction is underway. It will also force us to hook up to the EU sewer despite being excluded from the scope of this project. How can this be done without any kind of notification? Again, 132 families are being denied our due process.

Because we were excluded from the scope of this application, there have been no estimates of the hook up costs for the condos. If this scenario plays out, HBBC would have to be the first people forced to hook up to the sewer system. We wouldn't have any recourse to this questionable action by EU, we wouldn't have any indication of the costs associated with this action, we wouldn't be able to use our homes resulting in additional living expenses until the initial sewer construction was completed and we would have to assume the costs of decommissioning our septic plant. Is this fair & reasonable for the 132 families that are excluded from the scope of this application.

132 families that are directly affected have not been notified. 132 families currently using a DEP permitted septic plant do not need a sewer line brought to our property. 132 families have no idea what the financial burden will be if this transmission line is brought to our property.

Please deny this application.

Best Regards,

Joel and Erika Johnson  
Hideaway Bay Beach Club Unit Owners F8

Joel Johnson  
jejohnson1069@gmail.com  
941-759-0009

Erika Johnson  
broadwaypizzaerika@gmail.com  
612-741-7448

## Charlie Smith

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**From:** Kim Cobourn <krcobourn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 8:27 AM  
**To:** Records Clerk; Office of Commissioner Clark; Office of Commissioner Passidomo Smith; Office of Commissioner Graham  
**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.

Good morning,

I live on Don Pedro Island and I am very concerned that the sewer proposal by Environmental Utilities is going to be approved. I cannot emphasize enough how awful this proposal is to the residents of the island. The outrageous personal expense for a sewer system that is not necessary is going to cause great financial stress to many residents of the island. Not to mention that getting on and off the island using the current ferry service is already challenging enough on a daily basis. The additional construction vehicles needed for such a huge undertaking is going to make using the ferry service substantially more difficult for residents. The disruption to our lives, the noise, the tearing up of our roads, and the added financial stress for an unnecessary service must be considered in your decision. I'm asking you to please DENY the application by Environmental Utilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kim Cobourn  
290 S. Gulf Blvd  
Don Pedro Island