

**SIERRA CLUB SETTLEMENT**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR 2012**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Little Rock Wastewater (LRW) continued efforts to comply with the Sierra Club Settlement Agreement dated September 12, 2001. In 2012, the Little Rock Board of Directors granted LRW a rate adjustment that will support funding of projects through 2016. With the rate adjustment in place, LRW initiated a revolving loan fund application in the amount of \$36 million that will focus on improvements to the collection system that are designed to mitigate overflows. Further, LRW initiated capacity-related facility projects by procuring the services of consultants for the Mabelvale Pike Peak Flow Attenuation Facility and Cantrell Road Pump Station projects. Also during 2012, LRW developed a service line replacement program targeted at maintaining reliable sewer service to the ratepayers and will also provide the benefit of reducing private sources of inflow which contribute to the cause of capacity related overflows. Implementation of the program will commence in 2013.

These activities constituted LRW's major compliance efforts and they will be discussed with other activities in the order mentioned, consisting of (1) Project Updates; (2) Financing; (3) Other Compliance Actions; (4) Supplemental Environmental Projects; (5) 2012 Non-Capacity Related Sanitary Sewer Overflows; and, (6) 2012 Capacity Related Overflows.

**II. PROJECTS UPDATE**

**A. Little Maumelle Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Construction of the project was completed in March 2011 and the facility was placed in operation in July 2011.

**B. Peak Flow Attenuation Facilities**

Construction of the projects was completed in August 2011.

**C. Mabelvale Pike Peak Flow Attenuation Facility**

The SECAP Update, dated November 2010, identified the need for additional storage to complement the existing storage facility at Scott Hamilton Road. The additional storage, along with a hydraulic upgrade at the Peak Flow Pump Station, will further reduce the surcharge of rainfall dependent inflow and infiltration within the North and South 60 Sewer Interceptors thereby mitigating sanitary sewer overflows within service area for the identified design storm.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project cost of \$1,866,560 in 2013, \$2,345,934 in 2014, \$18,514,888 in 2015, \$23,265,119 in 2016, and \$15,168,369 in 2017.

#### **D. Peak Flow Pump Station – Additional Pump**

The Peak Flow Pump Station was designed with a vacant pump position so the capacity of the station could be readily increased when storage becomes available. The increased capacity of the station will reduce the occurrence of sanitary sewer overflows for the design storm event with additional storage along the Mabelvale Pike Corridor or an additional basin at the Peak Flow Attenuation Facility. The additional pump is scheduled to be added in 2017 with a project cost of \$1,203,695.

#### **E. Cantrell Road Pump Station Upgrade**

Essentially all sanitary sewerage from the area north of Cantrell Road and east of Pinnacle Valley Road flows through the Rebsamen Interceptor. This interceptor and an area of the city bounded by the Dillard's corporate headquarters to Central High School, to the University of Arkansas Medical Center, back to the Dillard's headquarters - which includes the State Capital Grounds - flows through the Rose Creek sewer basin pipes to the Cantrell Road Pump Station.

The Cantrell Road Pump Station was constructed in 1967 and was modified with bar screens and two dry pit submersible pumps in 1986. Two of the four pumps are original to the station while the other two pumps are replacement pumps that were installed in 1986. A portion of the switch gear is original while some was replaced or added in 1986. All mechanical and electrical components are fully depreciated and due to be replaced. Back-up power generation is being evaluated for this project.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project costs of \$609,897 in 2013, \$5,224,881 in 2014, and \$2,078,450 in 2015.

#### **F. Cantrell Road Pump Station Force Main**

The 30-inch force main that conveys flow from the Cantrell Road Pump Station to the River Front Interceptor is a pre-stressed concrete cylinder force main that was installed and placed in service in 1967 and has been in service since. Design life for similar structures can be 50 years. An engineering study of the force main will be performed to assess its existing condition. This project calls for the installation of a new force main and the inspection and rehabilitation of the existing force main after the new main is placed in service.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project costs of \$256,639 in 2013, \$2,513,769 in 2014, and \$377,698 in 2015.

#### **G. Cantrell Road Pump Station In-Line Storage**

This four million gallon in-line storage facility will alleviate overflows up to the design storm event generated from wet weather flows in the Jimmerson and Cantrell areas of the City. In addition, this storage facility will allow the pumping capacity at the Cantrell Road Pump Station to remain the same, which is essential to prevent the upsizing of the Riverfront Interceptor from west of downtown to the Adams Field Treatment Facility.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project cost of \$897,323 in 2016, \$8,084,035 in 2017, and \$8,006,165 in 2018.

#### **H. Fourche Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Hydraulic Upgrade**

The hydraulic upgrade of the Arch Street Pump Station from 38 million gallons per day (MGD) to 45 MGD necessitated the hydraulic upgrade of the Fourche Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to a minimum of 45 MGD. In 2008, LRW, with its consultant CDM, completed a 20-year capital improvement plan (CIP) to assess treatment processes, identify deficiencies, and plan for improvements to the plant to meet future hydraulic and process needs. The overall project was divided into four phases. Phase One was the addition of the new disinfection system, with a project cost of \$9,756,140.97. The disinfection project was completed January 2011. The second phase was the addition of a secondary clarifier, with a project cost of \$ 10,066,644.03, was completed October 2011. With the completion of the second phase, the treatment plant can hydraulically handle 45 MGD. The third phase will address headworks, bioreactor, and primary clarifier with a project cost estimate of \$13,322,092 to be completed in 2017. Phase Four of FCWTF does not include any improvements pertaining to the SECAP. The five-year forecast allocates \$20,890,953 for engineering, construction, administration expenses, contingencies, and plant process improvements. This project is scheduled to be completed in 2021.

#### **I. Rock Creek Storage**

A 7 million gallon in-line storage facility is essential to store wet weather flows generated along the Rock Creek Interceptor and the western portion of the City, thereby alleviating overflows up to the design storm event.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project cost of \$439,802 in 2013, \$1,535,585 in 2014, \$10,099,213 in 2015, \$9,998,961 in 2016, and \$4,388,685 in 2017.

#### **J. Adams Field Storage Basin**

The SECAP Update, dated November 2010, identified the need for additional storage at the Adams Field Treatment Plant to complement existing and proposed storage facilities (Scott Hamilton and Mabelvale Pike, respectively). The additional storage will allow for extended hydraulic pass-through of rainfall dependent infiltration and inflow volume thereby mitigating sanitary sewer overflows within the service area for the identified design storm.

The five year forecast prepared in conjunction with the 2013 capital budget allocates project cost of \$288,433 in 2015, \$3,070,953 in 2016, \$7,863,778 in 2017, and \$1,827,236 in 2018.

#### **K. Overflow Mitigation Projects**

In the late 1980s, LRW was the first municipality in Arkansas to establish a program to address excessive infiltration and inflow (I/I) which leads to sanitary sewer overflows during or following wet weather events. During the 1990s, LRW shifted its focus not only to

address excessive I/I within public mains, but to restore capacity to basin outfalls that were undersized for designated wet weather events and labeled this effort as the overflow mitigation program (OMP). The program has reduced the number of overflow points within the city as well as reduced the amount of extraneous rainwater that was treated. LRW will continue this program as evidenced by the following identified future projects and corresponding funding efforts:

1. Jimmerson Creek (RLF # 8) – Completed in 2010.
2. Jimmerson West Outfall (RLF # 8) – Completed in 2010.
3. Jimmerson East and Upper Hinson Manhole Rehab (RLF # 8) – Completed in 2010.
4. Allsopp South (RLF # 8) – Completed in 2011.
5. Barton (RLF # 8) – Completed in 2011.
6. Allsopp North/Country Club (Future Funding) – The Allsopp North/Country Club project is designed. The Allsopp North/Country Club project is the largest overflow mitigation project the utility has designed to date. The difficulty of this project is further multiplied by the housing density and extensive landscaping in the project area. Application for funding was initiated in 2012.
7. Allsopp Park Outfall (Future Funding) - The project is designed and all easements have been procured. Application for funding was initiated in 2012.
8. Country Club Outfall (Future Funding) - LRW will construct a new outfall line along the creek from the intersection of Beechwood and Club to the cul-de-sac on Coffee Pot Lane. The site conditions and the area make this project difficult to construct. Application for funding was initiated in 2012.
9. Leawood, Echo Valley, and Pleasant Valley (Future Funding) - The Leawood, Echo Valley, and Pleasant Valley projects are designed. Application for funding was initiated in 2012.
10. Lower Swaggerty, Granite Mountain, and Sub-basin 30100 - The Lower Swaggerty, Granite Mountain, and Sub-basin 30100 (Bond Street) are designed. Application for funding will be initiated in 2013.
11. Jimmerson West – The project was partially constructed in 2011. Application for funding was initiated in 2012 for the remaining collection system rehabilitation.
12. System Evaluation and Capacity Assurance Plan (SECAP) (RLF # 8) – LRW contracted with RJN Group to conduct the SECAP Update. RJN started the project in the fall of 2009 provided the final report in November 2010. The Update lists multiple projects in addition to the original SECAP which was completed in

2002. The 2002 SECAP resulted in a Capital Improvement Plan to mitigate overflows and bring the wastewater system into compliance with the Consent Administrative Order (CAO) by 2018 and Sierra Club Settlement Agreement by 2018. Many of the projects contained in the original SECAP have been implemented. RJN evaluated the impact of the completed projects and the need for the remaining improvements and/or development of additional alternatives. The objectives of the SECAP Update were to flow monitor the entire sanitary sewer system, update the existing hydraulic model, identify capacity requirements, analyze existing pump stations, analyze equalization basins, analyze wastewater treatment plants, develop improvement projects, budget estimates, recommend infiltration/inflow reduction, and provide a Capital Improvement Plan. RJN provided LRW with the data and analysis previously mentioned in the objectives.

LRW listed the projects in the 2012 budget and scheduled the projects accordingly. The report lists storage facilities, operational adjustments, capacity improvements, and other pertinent items to mitigate overflows. The major projects for the storage facilities are at three sites within the collection system and one site at the Adams Field Wastewater Treatment Facility. The three sites are the Rock Creek Storage, Cantrell Road Storage, and the Mabelvale Pike Facility. The estimated storage for the three facilities is 62 million gallons. The AFWTF storage is estimated at 14 million gallons. The total amount of storage required is 76 million gallons. There are multiple projects listed in the SECAP Update to increase the capacity of existing gravity mains. A large diameter main (42" & 48") proposed from 36<sup>th</sup> street to Mabelvale Pike is the largest line project required. The Grassy Flat main requires a capacity increase from an 18" main to a 30" mainline. Multiple projects such as manhole adjustments and upsizing of mains was included in the report. The SECAP Update assumed all previous collection system projects would be completed. The following list was included in the 2012 budget.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION		
District 84 OMP	Upper Coleman OMP	District 119 OMP
Leslie Circle Mainline	West Markham Mainline	Roselawn Cemetery Mainline
17 <sup>th</sup> Street Relay	Fairpark Relay	Bishop St. Relay
Victory Street Relay	Rodney Parham Relay	Markham to Rodney Parham Relay
3I078 to 3L080 42" to 60" - R3	Rebsamen Collector - Murray Park 10090	17 <sup>th</sup> Street Pipe Burst
Sherrill Heights 11000	3K059 - Diversion-R21	River Ridge P.S. 11200
Rebsamen Collector - Commercial 10050	Rebsamen Collector - Golf Course 10080	Boyle Park Mainline - R24
48" Cross Connection (16K) - R29	Rebsamen Collector - Alltel 10040	Longfellow SB-11400
Rose Creek East OMP	Rose Creek Central OMP	Rose Creek West OMP
Mabelvale OMP	Quapaw North OMP	Walnut Valley OMP
Overlook/Pinnacle Point OMP 10070	Rebsamen Collector - Harbor 10060	Barrow OMP
Foreman Lake OMP	Hall High South OMP	Springer Blvd. Relay -

		SECAP R1
University Avenue Relay - SECAP R7	Rose Creek East Relay - SECAP R13	Walton Heights - Basin 11600 OMP
Grassy Flat Main - R27	36 <sup>th</sup> Street to Mabelvale Pike Outfall	Mabelvale Pike (East of University) SB40701
Meadowcliff SB40702	Quapaw South SB20401	Mainline Improvements for Modeled Overflows
Chicot SB40704	Cloverdale SB40703	Upper Country Club Outfall - R19

### III. FINANCING SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

#### A. Discussion:

A sewer revenue bond issue dated August 1, 2012, in the amount of \$28,290,000 was necessary to provide funds needed for compliance projects provided by the System Evaluation and Capacity Assurance Plan (SECAP) and the SECAP Update with the goal of eliminating capacity related sanitary sewer overflows in the Little Rock Sanitary Collection and Treatment system.

It is planned that the proceeds of the Series 2012 Bonds will be utilized to acquire, construct and equip all or a portion of the capital projects outlined in the Preliminary Engineering Report prepared in connection with this bond issue. These projects include the Cantrell Road Pump Station upgrade, the Cantrell Road Pump Station Force Main, the first phase of the Mabelvale Pike Peak Flow Attenuation Facility, and the first phase of the Rock Creek Storage Facility. The total estimated cost of all eligible improvements of the Series 2012 Bonds is \$33,233,918. These projects have been prioritized and ranked to allow for phasing of capital projects as funding allows. The Cantrell Road Pump Station Upgrade and the Cantrell Road Pump Station Force Main are scheduled to complete by 2015 and will be funded solely with the proceeds of the Series 2012 Bonds. Sewer revenue bond issues are scheduled for 2015 and 2016 to complete the final phases of the Mabelvale Pike Peak Flow Attenuation Facility and the Rock Creek Storage Facility.

### IV. OTHER COMPLIANCE ACTIONS

#### A. Signage/Public Notification/Public Information:

As required in the Settlement Agreement, LRW staff developed a Sanitary Sewer Overflow Response Plan (SSORP) which was authorized by the Little Rock Sanitary Sewer Committee on September 18, 2002. The SSO Response Plan, as amended, is included in this document as Attachment A. The plan establishes a protocol for maintenance crews to follow when responding to an SSO event, and specifies internal and regulatory reporting procedures. The SSORP is reviewed and revised annually to ensure all policies, procedures and contacts are accurate. The response protocol includes provisions for temporary signage and posting notices at individual residences. Temporary signage currently used by LRW is shown in Attachment B. A

copy of the “door hanger” LRW uses to post residences is provided in Attachment C.

Practically all of the SSO Notification Program requirements contained in the Settlement Agreement are addressed in the SSORP, including the provisions for permanent signage at recurring SSO locations on public property. Locations eligible for permanent signage are in Table A-1 of the SSORP (Attachment A).

An example of permanent signage placed at recurring SSO sites is shown in Attachment D.

## B. Public Relations Information

1. *Can the Grease*® - The *Can the Grease* initiative kicked off in 2002 as a means of education, motivation, and promotion of the grease related problems in Little Rock’s sanitary sewer system. LRW’s residential customers can request a grease information “starter kit,” which includes a grease container, three (3) heat-resistant liners, two (2) information pamphlets, the LRW *Can the Grease* brochure and the WEF Fat Free Sewers brochure (Attachment E), and an information magnet. Starter kits are also distributed in larger quantities at community events and to apartment complexes. In 2011, approximately 420 starter kits were delivered or mailed to residential customers, 8,197 to apartment complexes and mobile home parks, and approximately 538 at various community events or tradeshow. LRW distributed approximately 9,230 *Can the Grease* starter kits for the entire year. (Attachment E)

The *Can the Grease* program was nationally recognized in 2008 with the *NACWA Public Information & Education Award*, and in 2009 with the *ADEQ Stewardship Award*.

2. *Captain Sewer*® - This program was not funded for 2012.

3. *Stay Connected*® - LRW continues to promote our *Stay Connected* program which has made a huge leap towards a cleaner, environmentally affable future through public education. The message is one of awareness and preservation: know where your sewer service line is and have it checked for cracks, breaks and debris. With an involved advertising campaign and service line inspection plan, LRW has made significant steps in public awareness and education of sewer service line responsibility and maintenance. LRW strongly believes in educating and involving citizens in programs such as this one. For this reason, LRW is utilizing several methods of program advertisement and public education. Unlike several larger projects LRW is presently undertaking (e.g., new wastewater treatment facility), this program is not mandatory under the Consent Administrative Order (currently mandating projects for LRW), but rather it has become a passionate endeavor that LRW has taken on for the sake of public health and the environment. (Attachment F)

The *Stay Connected* program was nationally recognized in 2010 with the *NACWA Public Information & Education Award*.

4. *Bill Inserts* - LRW created two (2) bill inserts that were distributed in the Utility bill in 2012. The "Rate Increase" insert was released in July. The November "Sewer Service Line Replacement Program" (SSLRP) insert contained information on the launch of the SSLRP. The insert directed customers to our website and Customer Relations Department. (Attachment G)

5. *Awards* - LRW received several awards and recognition during 2012 for contributions to the environment, financial reporting, engineer of the year and public education. The awards LRW received are as follows:

- (a) *NACWA Peak Performance Awards* - The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) awards Peak Performance Awards.

Platinum Awards recognize 100% compliance with NPDES permits over a consecutive five (5) year period. If a member agency has received a Platinum Award, in the subsequent years, as long as 100% compliance is maintained, Platinum Award status can be continued. Should 100% compliance not be maintained, member agency facilities must receive four consecutive Gold Awards to again be eligible for another Platinum Award.

Gold Awards honor treatment works that have achieved 100 percent compliance with their NPDES permit for an entire calendar year.

Silver Awards recognize facilities that have received no more than five NPDES permit violations per calendar year.

All eligible member agency facilities must provide at least secondary treatment, or advanced primary treatment with a 301(h) waiver. Additionally, there are no facility capacity minimums for Peak Performance Award eligibility.

All LRW plants achieved zero violations in 2012.

- (b) *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* - The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the Finance Department of LRW the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association that serves approximately 17,500 professionals in the governmental finance field. The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is the "highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting" by the GFOA and is considered to be a "significant accomplishment by a government and its management." LRW's CAFR was judged by an impartial panel that looked for high standards of the program such as "demonstrating a constructive 'spirit of



full disclosure' to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.”

This is LRW's seventh consecutive year to accomplish this feat. (Attachment H)

(c) *Distinguished Budget Presentation Award* - The Government Finance officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada awarded Little Rock Wastewater the GFOA'S Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget for 2012. The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories to receive the award.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. This award was presented to B. J. Harrison and Debbie Williams.

Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America. The Government Finance Officers Association is a nonprofit professional association serving over 17,600 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting. (Attachment I)

(d) *Sterling Agency Award* – LRW was named a 2012 Universal Public Purchasing Certification Council (UPPCC) Sterling Agency for having a fully certified staff for five (5) consecutive years.

This award was created to acknowledge an agency's commitment to the value of certification in the public sector. Norma Hall, Chair of the UPPCC Governing Board states that “this achievement speaks volumes of [this] agency's commitment and dedication to the profession and the skills and expertise that [LRW] bring to the public procurement industry.”

LRW is currently the only public organization to have a fully certified purchasing staff in the state. LRW set the bar four (4) years ago by becoming the only public entity in Arkansas to have a 100% certified staff and has now raised the bar by being named a Sterling Agency for its devotion and commitment to public procurement. Debbie Williams accepted this award. (Attachment J)

6. *Trade Associations, Exhibits, Fundraisers, and Community Service* – One of the major success elements of our public awareness program in 2012 was our participation in specific trade associations, environmental exhibits, and community events. Participation in selected trade associations has allowed LRW to promote and educate an extensive number of residents and business owners on the importance of reducing grease in the sanitary sewer system, updates on our major projects and water conservation. 2011 event/exhibit participation is as follows and shown on Attachment K:

(a) *Little Rock Central High School Science Fair 2012* - Since 1995, LRW has sponsored the Little Rock Central High (LRCH) School Science Fair by providing materials for protection of the gymnasium floor, the incentive awards, and judges. Central High teachers, PTA, and administration have been most appreciative of LRW's efforts in supporting environmental education and LRW employees have been very responsive in volunteering. On February 3, 2012, the LRCH science fair was conducted and several LRW employees volunteered to judge.

(b) *Third Annual Great American Cleanup* – On March 10, 2012, LRW participated in the Third Annual Great American Cleanup at Hindman Park. Volunteers from LRW installed decorative manhole lids that have been prepared for children to paint on several manholes in the park. LRW approved and prepared raised manholes for mural painting by local youth. The team also picked up trash along the creek and throughout the cliff trail. LRW also provided Personal Protective Equipment donated by MedSafe Safety Supply Company for the volunteers. According to the organizers, 2012 was the largest turnout for the event in its 3 year history.

(c) *Neighborhoods USA Projects* – On October 6, LRW employees participated in the 5K Race and also volunteered for event staff for the 5K Race to Minneapolis at Hindman Park.

The organizational mission of NUSA has, since its inception, been to build and strengthen neighborhood associations and to promote productive communications and collaborations between those associations and both the public and private sectors. The organization has, for over thirty years, served these broad objectives in part through the conduct of an annual conference. This provides an opportunity for people from all locations, sectors and levels of society to discuss the pressing issues of the times, share experiences and offer encouragement or assistance.

(d) National Night Out – LRW participated in two National Night events in 2012. On October 2, LRW employees participated in the event at several locations throughout the City, where they volunteered at the events and promoted our CTG program.

(e) Good Shepherd Ecumenical Retirement Center Health Expo – The Good Shepherd Retirement Center hosted a Health Expo on May 29, 2012. LRW attended and passed out *Can the Grease* kits.

(f) GIS Day - *The GIS Day event, held at Verizon Arena on November 15, 2012, focused on GIS data technology as strategic resources for economic development.* "Maps in the Cloud" was the theme for PAgis' GIS Day event at the Verizon Arena in North Little Rock. Presenters focused on how GIS is used to manage and maintain community resources.

(g) Adopt-A-Street - Another way LRW promoted public awareness programs in 2012 was our participation in the United Way fundraiser campaign, Little Rock's Adopt-A-Street program where LRW adopted ¼ of a mile of road along Shackelford Road, and the Channel 11 THV Summer Cereal Drive for the Arkansas Foodbank Network.

(h) La Que Buena – On Saturday, May 4, 2012, LRW was proud to take part in the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Health and Safety Fair sponsored by La Que Buena Radio Station at the College Station Clinic and Community City Center. The event had health screenings, public outreach and education, and all around fun for the whole family. Currently, Little Rock's population is 20% Spanish speaking, and in an effort to reach this demographic, LRW provided Spanish language "Can the Grease" or as it translates to Spanish, "Envasar la Grasa" kits and information to participants. The turnout for the event was impressive with LRW distributing 87 Can the Grease kits.

(i) Little Rock Fire Department Rescue Class – LRW hosted the Little Rock Fire Department for low angle rescue practical operations training. Low angle rescue is where there is the possibility of a victim down a steep embankment where rescue is needed. Due to the steep embankments, ropes and fall protection is needed to help rescuers from slipping and to help bring the victim to safety. Rescue 2 and other units of the Little Rock Fire Department were involved in the class.

7. *Media* – It has been the intent of LRW to continue improved communication with all areas of the media during 2012, but with a smaller budget. That goal was accomplished through regularly issued press releases highlighting special topics of interest. LRW worked closely with the local newspaper to offer information in a timely manner. That effort was found to be positive in the result of most newspaper articles being factual.

Due to 2012 budget restrictions, our ability to place ads in popular publications was limited. LRW advertised in various local publications such as *Arkansas Times*, *Arkansas Business*, and *State Trooper Magazine*. (Attachment L)

8. *Publications* –We printed several informational brochures on a variety of topics from our *Can the Grease* and *Stay Connected* programs to our treatment facilities and construction. Due to budget restrictions and cuts, publications for 2012 were extremely limited. (Attachment M)

9. *Website* – LRW continues to maintain the site with the latest news, updates, and information for those who access the site. The user-friendly site allows visitors to view a calendar listing all Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting dates, approved minutes of the Committee, and even biographies of each Committee member. With several interactive displays, general wastewater information, ordinances, rate information, and much more, website traffic continues to grow. One of the most visited areas of the site is the customer information section, which allows visitors to select a topic or department, and then populate a field with a question or comment. They can also look at LRW's construction schedule to see dates and places of work to be performed.

Under *Community Services*, information is available about the following: Who to Call, Frequently Asked Questions, Residential Services, Commercial Services, LRW Ordinances, Sewer Line Locator, and Information Request Form. Under *Community Awareness*, information is available about the following: Work In Your Neighborhood, Where Does Your Money Go?, LRW Programs, Headlines & Newsroom, Operational Events, Calendar of Events, and Information Request Form. Under *Education*, information is available about the following: Conservation & Environment, Treatment Technology, Innovation in Wastewater, Water Reuse, Pollution Prevention, and Information Request Form. Under *About LRW*, information is available about the following: LRW Business Center, LRW Overview, Sanitary Sewer Committee, Our People, Financials, Capital Improvements, Facilities & Locations, Awards & Recognition, and Information Request Form.

10. *Facility Tours* – LRW continued to advertise wastewater treatment facility tours at our Little Maumelle Treatment Facility and on the LRW website. To further public education, brochures are distributed to each visitor detailing the facility during the tour(s). Some of those who toured the facility were: The Episcopal Collegiate School, AWW&WEA Central District, and the Arkansas Environmental Academy. (Attachment N)

## V. SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS AND ANY OTHER LRW ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS

The Settlement Agreement required the LRSSC to establish a Supplemental Environmental Project consisting of the Fourche Plant Wetlands, bike paths (set forth hereinafter in paragraphs A and B):

- A. **Fourche Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Wetlands:** The 90 acres of wetlands next to the FCWTF have not been disturbed and are available to Little

Rock Parks & Recreation Department if it wishes to develop hiking trails on the property. In 2010, the Audubon Society of Arkansas removed the invasive species, Alligator Weed, from this area by laying down tarps to “choke out” the weed. They followed up by replanting species of vegetation native to the area. The Audubon Society also introduced to the area an insect known for eating only the Alligator Weed. They obtained these insects from the Corps of Engineers out of Jacksonville, Florida. The replanting of the native vegetation has been successful but the Audubon Society is still verifying the success of the insects.

- B. **Bike Paths:** In 2012 LRW contractors completed a pipeline conveyance project in correlation with the LMWTF where it placed large diameter pipes underneath Pinnacle Valley Road (PVR) and County Farm Road (CFR). The completion of the project entailed a new, asphalt road for PVR and CFR with designated bike paths on both sides of the road. LRW also constructed a walking bridge on top of our conveyance pipe which crosses the Little Maumelle River. When LRW constructed the access road to the LMWTF, a nine-foot wide pedestrian way was constructed for future bike path endeavors along the road. LRW is continuing communication with Little Rock’s Parks and Recreation Department, the City of Little Rock, and Pulaski County officials for future possible bike paths. Mayor Mark Stodola invited LRW to be a part of a bike path task force, and it plans on actively participating in the future.

VI. 2012 NON-CAPACITY RELATED SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS

- A. **Compliance Standard:** The Settlement Agreement limits the number of non-capacity related SSOs per 100 miles of sanitary sewer operated and maintained by LRW in LRSSC’s collection and treatment system. The Settlement Agreement specifies the following “interim schedule” for non-capacity related SSOs:

Calendar Year	Number of Non-Capacity Related SSOs per 100 Miles of Sewer
2002	12
2003	11
2004	10
2005	9
2006	8
2007	7
2008	6

When LRSSC has reduced non-capacity related SSOs to 6 per 100 miles of sewer mains for two (2) consecutive calendar years, LRSSC shall be deemed to have complied with all provisions of this agreement related to non-capacity related SSOs.

- B. **Non-Capacity Related SSOs in 2012:** There were 57 non-capacity related SSOs reported in 2012. Of the 57 total, three (3) SSOs were related to construction, and five (5) SSOs were related to vandalism. The result was a total of 49 non-capacity related overflows attributed to the operation and maintenance of the LRW collection system. Of the 49 non-capacity related overflows, three (3) SSOs were attributed to debris; one (1) SSO was attributed to equipment failure; ten (10) SSOs were attributed to grease; twenty-two (22)

SSOs were attributed to line failures; thirteen (13) SSOs were attributed to roots.\* A complete listing of non-capacity related SSOs is provided under Attachment O.

**C. Compliance Assessment:** LRW has reduced the number of non-capacity related sanitary sewer overflows attributed to the operation and maintenance of the collection system owned by CLR to below 6 per 100 miles of sewer lines for nine (9) consecutive calendar years, - 2004 with a total of 42, 2005 with a total of 53, 2006 with a total of 42, 2007 with a total of 46, 2008 with a total of 33, 2009 with a total of 38, 2010 with a total of 39, 2011 with a total of 45, and 2012 with a total of 49. Therefore, under the Settlement terms in Paragraph No. 5, page 10, LRW is deemed to have complied with all provisions of this Settlement related to non-capacity related SSOs.

**D. Additional Projects Not Covered By SECAP:** In addition to the progress made on SECAP projects during 2012, LRW spent approximately \$1,785,700.00 renewing or replacing structurally deteriorated sewer mains. Old deteriorated sewers are sources of infiltration/inflow and are prone to blockage, contributing to both the number of capacity and non-capacity SSOs.

In a continued effort to maximize LRW's rehab dollars, LRW treated 54,482 feet of mainline in 2012 with a contracted chemical root removal company with a total cost of \$78,464. Root removal is an important component of LRW's Plan 66 that targets SSO reduction.

LRW personnel completed work on 204 line segments that were in need of point repairs as well as relocated or replaced 9,302 feet of sewer line.

991 feet of sewer line was rehabilitated under the 2012 maintenance contracts for pipe bursting and cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP), for a total cost of \$115,700.00.

In 2012, the Cleaning and Inspection Department Televised 520,659 feet, Hand Cleaned 744,216 feet, Hydro Cleaned 2,163,027 feet, and Line Walked 4,636,567 feet of sewer lines.

## VII. 2012 CAPACITY RELATED SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS

**A. Compliance Standard:** The Settlement Agreement requires that capacity related SSOs be eliminated, provided that SSOs may occur without a breach of the Settlement Agreement if rainfall amounts exceed a duration-quantity table that essentially defines a two-year storm event ("qualifying event"). A qualifying event shall occur if any of the twelve permanent rain gauges within the collection system record a two-year storm event. More specific, to that end, the agreement required completion of a study recommending and establishing a time line for specific actions to address capacity related SSOs. The study would serve as the foundation for a long-term compliance program.

**B. Capacity Related SSOs in 2012:** There were 110 capacity related SSOs reported in 2012 at 87 locations. There were two (2) rain events recorded in 2012 measuring above the Design Storm which resulted in 87 capacity related overflows. The remaining 23 capacity

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\* In March 2007, LRW eliminated the combination of "Roots & Grease" as a code in reporting the cause of an overflow. LRW decided to use either "Roots" or "Grease" to improve reporting and tracking of SSOs.

related overflows occurring in 2012, resulted from rain events measuring below the Design Storm threshold. A complete listing of capacity related SSOs is provided under Attachment P.

## **VIII. CONCLUSION**

LRW realized continued success in mitigating non-capacity related overflows throughout the year 2012. The established maintenance procedures and schedules continue to provide the desired results by minimizing mainline stoppages within the collection system. In addition, the \$1.785 million of capital funds invested through the replacement of the aging collection system continued to reduce stoppages related to structural pipe failures.

With regard to capacity related overflows, LRW procured the first of three scheduled rate increases needed to complete approximately \$275 million in capital projects targeted on the wet weather performance of the sewer system. The rates adjusted in 2012 supports a revenue bond and loan that will fund approximately \$60 million in improvements for both facilities (\$26.1 million revenue bond) and collection system (\$36. 4 million loan). A rate adjustment will be needed in 2015 to support \$109 million of improvements to both facilities and collection system while a third rate increase will need to be in place by the beginning of 2016 to complete \$103 million of improvements to facilities and collection system.