**SUPPLEMENTAL SEWER REGULATIONS OF LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Adopted by Resolution – May 28th, 2013

# GENERAL

## Purpose and Objectives.

### This regulation sets forth uniform requirements for connection to and use of the Wastewater collection, conveyance and treatment systems owned and operated or served by the Lowcountry Regional Water System (“*LRWS*”). Enforcement of this regulation enables LRWS to comply with all applicable state and federal laws required by the Clean Water Act of 1977 and General Pretreatment Regulations (R61-9 403).

### These Terms and Conditions are a matter of public record, and as authorized by S.C. Code Ann. § 6-25-100, 1976, as amended, and constitute regulations of the LRWS duly adopted by resolution of the Lowcountry Regional Water System Commission, the governing body of LRWS (the “*Commission*”). These regulations are supplemental to the Water and Sewer Regulations adopted by LRWS and are incorporated into them by reference.

### The objectives of this regulation are:

#### To protect public health and the environment by requiring proper use of the public Sewers by existing and new development;

#### To specify the methods and procedures by which connection is made to LRWS’s Wastewater Systems;

#### To prevent introduction into LRWS’s Wastewater Systems of Pollutants that may damage or will interfere with the operation of said systems;

#### To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the Wastewater System which will pass through the system inadequately treated into watercourses, or the atmosphere or otherwise be incompatible with the system;

#### To improve the opportunity to recycle and reclaim Wastewaters and Bio-solids from the systems;

#### To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the Wastewater System which will create a hazard to LRWS employees or the public, adversely affect public health and welfare or adversely affect the environment; and,

#### To ensure LRWS complies with all aspects of its Non-discharge and NPDES Permit conditions and any other Federal or State laws to which the LRWS Wastewater System is subject.

### These regulations shall apply to the residents, businesses and other entities in LRWS’s service area who are, directly or indirectly, Users of LRWS’s Wastewater System and to those who are required to connect to LRWS’s Wastewater System. They are incorporated by reference in each application for a contract or agreement for Service and govern Service to all Customers of the System and under all rates and classes of retail service (whether or not such Service is authorized), except as expressly and directly modified by the particular rate schedule or contract under which Service is granted. Any person discharging into LRWS’s Wastewater System is deemed to accept and agree to be bound by these regulations.

## Definitions. Except where the context otherwise indicates another or different meaning or intent, the following terms are intended and used, and will be construed to have meanings as follows:

## *“Act”* or *“the Act””* will mean the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251, et. seq.

*“Biochemical Oxygen Demand* or *(BOD)”* will mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure, five (5) days at 20 degrees centigrade expressed in terms of weight (pounds) and concentration {milligrams per liter (mg/l)}.

*“Bio-solids”* will mean those solid materials produced as a byproduct of the biological wastewater treatment process.

*“Building Lateral”* will mean a pipeline conveying Wastewater from the premises of a User to the system. The Building Lateral stops at the property line or at a Sewer clean-out located at or near the property line or easement.

*“Conventional Sewer”* will mean a pipeline, designed and constructed to accept Wastewater from structures and to convey that Wastewater to its interim or final destination without the need for pumping and including gravity or vacuum sewer systems. See also Sanitary Sewer.

*“Cooling Water (Non-contact)”* will meanthe water discharged from any use such as air conditioning, cooling or refrigeration, or to which the only Pollutant added is heat.

*“County”* will mean the Hampton County Council as appropriate.

*“Development”* will mean the performance of any land improvement operation; the making of any material change in the use of any structure or land; or the division of land into two (2) or more parcels.

*“Development Policies and Procedures”* will mean a document, issued by LRWS and approved by LRWS’s Commission, that describes and sets forth the policies, procedures and rules governing water and sewer related aspects of land development in LRWS’s service area.

*“Domestic Wastewater”* will mean Sanitary Wastewater generated principally from dwellings, business buildings, institutions, etc. Also includes similar wastes from industries when separated from industrial waste. Domestic Wastewater shall not exceed a BOD of 250 mg/l. Total Suspended Solids shall be less than 250 mg/l and oil and grease shall be less than 100 mg/l.

*“Fail to Connect Charge”* will mean a monthly fee charged to a User if they failed to connect to the LRWS Wastewater System within the required time period as described in Section II(a)(3). The fee would equal the normal monthly sewer charges as if the sewer connection had been made.

*“Grease Trap”* will mean a static or mechanical structure installed in a Building Lateral or within a building, designed to separate grease, oils and fats from Wastewater and store them for later collection and disposal.

*“Holding Tank Waste”* will mean any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, septic tanks, and vacuum pump tank trucks.

*“Industrial User”* will mean a user of LRWS’s Wastewater System who discharges Wastewater that is not Domestic Wastewater.

*“Industrial Wastewater”* will mean any Wastewater that is not Domestic Wastewater

*“Instantaneous Limit”* will mean the maximum concentration of a pollutant allowed to be discharged at any time, determined from the analysis of any discrete or composited sample collected, independent of the industrial flow rate and the duration of the sampling event.

*“Interference”* will mean the inhibition or disruption of the Treatment processes or operations which contributes to a violation of any requirements of LRWS’s NPDES or ND permits. The term includes prevention of the use or disposal of Sewage sludge by the system in accordance with 405 of the Act, (33 U.S.C. 1345) or any criteria, guidelines, or regulations developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or more stringent State criteria (including those contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to Title IV of SWDA) applicable to the method of disposal or use employed by the system

*“LRWS*” will mean the Lowcountry Regional Water System, owner and operator of the Wastewater System.

*“Person”* will mean any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, company, corporation association, joint stock company, trust, state, governmental entity or any other legal entity, or their legal representatives, agents or assigns. The masculine gender shall include the feminine, the singular shall include the plural where indicated by the context.

*“pH”* will mean the logarithm (base 10) of the reciprocal of the concentration of hydrogen ions expressed in milligrams per liter of solution.

*“Pollutant”* will mean any dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, Sewage, garbage, Sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discharged equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, or agricultural waste discharged into water.

*“Pre-Treatment”* or *“Treatment”* will mean the reduction of the amount of Pollutants, the elimination of Pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of Pollutant properties in Wastewater to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such Pollutants into the Wastewater System. Such reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical or biological processes, process changes or other means, except as prohibited by the Act.

*“Property Owner”* will mean the owner of record of a piece of real property as listed in the Hampton County tax records.

*“Sanitary Sewer”* or *“Sewer”* will mean a pipeline designed and constructed for the collection and/or transmission of Wastewater, including both Conventional Sewers and Sewer force mains, including all required pumps, values, manholes and other appurtenances.

*“Service Lateral”* will mean pipe laterals from the LRWS sewer mains to the Building Lateral.

*“Septage”* will mean Domestic Wastewater that has been accumulated at a location that does not have a connection to the Wastewater System.

*“Sewage”* or *“Wastewater”* will mean the liquid and water-carried industrial or domestic wastes from dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial facilities, and institutions, together with any groundwater, surface water, and Storm Water that may be present, whether treated or untreated.

*“Storm Water”* will mean any flow occurring during or following any form of natural precipitation and resulting therefrom.

*“Suspended Solids”* will mean the total suspended matter that floats on the surface of, or is suspended in, water, Wastewater or other liquids, and which is removable by laboratory filtering.

*“Tap”* will mean the act of making a connection between a Building Lateral and a Sewer owned or operated by LRWS.

*“Tap Fee”* will mean a one-time charge, paid by the user, designed to recover to LRWS the cost of making the Tap.

*“Toxic Pollutant”* will mean any Pollutant or combination of Pollutants listed as toxic in regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under the provisions of CWA 307 (a) or other Acts.

*“Treatment Plant”* will mean that portion of the system designed to provide treatment to Wastewater sufficient to allow the permitted disposal of both solid and liquid residuals.

*“User”* will mean any Person who contributes, or who causes or permits the contribution of Wastewater into the LRWS’s Wastewater System.

*“Wastewater”* or *“Sewage”* will mean the liquid and water-carried industrial or domestic wastes from dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial facilities, and institutions, together with any groundwater, surface water, and Storm Water that may be present, whether treated or untreated.

*“Wastewater System”* will mean LRWS’s wastewater collection, transmission, treatment and disposal system.

*“Wastewater Acceptance Agreement”* will mean a written acknowledgement issued by LRWS that recognizes a Person as being a User of LRWS’s Wastewater System. Any Person whose property is legally connected to LRWS’s Wastewater System, as of the date of this Regulation, has, by definition, been issued a Wastewater Acceptance Agreement. Such an Agreement is entered into by the customer at the time a customer account is opened in his name.

*“Waters of the State”* will mean all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon the State or any portion thereof.

## Applicability. All public sanitary sewer Users shall comply with all applicable provisions of this Regulation and shall further comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and regulations, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (“DHEC”) pretreatment standards, which are at that time in effect. In the event of a conflict, the more stringent requirement or higher standard shall apply. Violations of this document shall be subject to penalties as provided throughout this Regulation.

# CONNECTION TO LRWS’S WASTEWATER SYSTEM

## Use of Public Sewers Required.

### It shall be unlawful for any Person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited into LRWS’s Wastewater System or the public or private Sewers within the LRWS service area, any Wastewater, Pollutant, human or animal excrement, Septage, grease, garbage, or other objectionable waste, except as provided by this regulation. Further, it shall be unlawful to discharge Wastewater to any natural outlet (to include storm sewers) within the LRWS service area.

### It shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for disposal of Wastewater where public Sewers are available, as such availability is defined by Section II(A)(3).

### The owner of any house, building, or property available for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purpose situated within the LRWS service area and located within 250 feet of any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there shall be located a public Conventional Sewer is hereby required, at the owner’s expense, to install suitable toilet facilities therein and to connect such facilities directly to said Conventional Sewer in accordance with the provisions of this regulation, within 180 days after written notice from the LRWS to the owner requiring such Property Owner to make connection thereto, provided that said connection shall be feasible as determined by the LRWS. Where a connection to a Conventional Sewer is not technically feasible, and if LRWS so directs, the owner shall be required at their own expense to construct such pumping facilities as found necessary by the LRWS to connect to public Sewer. If the property is not connected to the sewer after the above referenced 180 day period, the User will be subject to the Fail to Connect Charge and this fee will be added to the monthly bill. Additionally, LRWS may apply to the Court in the county where the project is located for the enforcement of any such regulation through means of mandatory injunction or any other available remedy through the court.

### At such time as Sewer becomes available to a property as defined by Section II(a)(3), a direct connection shall be made to the Sewer in compliance with this Regulation and any septic tanks, cesspools, and all other private Sewage works shall be abandoned in compliance with DHEC regulations within 60 days of said connection to the Sewer.

### Any property connected to LRWS’s Wastewater System shall also be connected to LRWS’s water system where water service is available.

### LRWS shall not support the issuance of a development permit to any development proposed within areas where central Sewage service is available or where it can reasonably be made available, unless said development is to be connected to the Sewer system or LRWS has found that such connection is not feasible.

### No statement contained in this section shall be construed to nullify any additional requirements that may be imposed by the appropriate State or County health officer, Hampton County, or any municipality within the LRWS Service Area.

## Sanitary Sewer Extensions.

### Construction of Sanitary Sewers in any new development and their connection to the existing system shall be the responsibility of any Person performing such development. LRWS shall issue and update from time to time a statement of Development Policies and Procedures which the developer shall follow in designing, constructing, permitting and conveying the Sewers to LRWS. In all cases, written authorization from LRWS shall be required to connect such Sewers to the LRWS Wastewater System and such authorization shall be conditional on the developer having satisfied all requirements of the Water and Sewer Regulations, these Supplemental Sewer Regulations, and the applicable Development Policies and Procedures. LRWS may immediately withdraw any authorization that it determines has been granted in breach of these requirements.

### New Sanitary Sewers or extensions to existing systems where such Sewers are to be located in public streets shall be conveyed to the LRWS in accordance with the provisions of LRWS’s Development Policies and Procedures. New Sanitary Sewers located on private property shall be conveyed to the LRWS when required approvals have been obtained in accordance with the provisions of LRWS’s Development Policies and Procedures and permanent Sewer easements in a form and of widths acceptable to LRWS are conveyed to the LRWS for each public Sewer located on private property. Such easements shall remain clear of obstruction and free of any buildings, other structures or large trees.

### Approval of new Sewage works to be constructed by a developer shall be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of LRWS’s Development Policies and Procedures.

## Building Laterals and Connections.

### No Person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public Sewer or appurtenance thereof, without first obtaining an approval from the LRWS.

### All Water Service or Wastewater Service connection fees due must be paid to LRWS or suitable payment arrangements made before LRWS will make or allow to be made any connection to the public Sewer. In the case of new development requiring development approval by either County or municipal officials, impact fees must be paid or suitable payment arrangements made prior to LRWS authorizing such development approval.

### Conditions Governing Tap-on:

#### At the time of connection to the Wastewater System the Property Owner shall pay to LRWS fees required under the Water and Sewer Regulations.

#### Standard Sewer tap fees levied when LRWS constructs the tap presume the following conditions related to the construction by LRWS of Sewer service lines.

##### Construction of the Service Lateral shall be limited to a maximum of 250 feet.

##### Construction shall be by open trench excavation across no more than two lanes of paved roadway surface having a maximum width of 26 feet excluding curb, gutter and sidewalks. Construction shall be limited to one (1) Sewer service per lot.

##### Construction shall not require the relocation of existing underground or overhead utilities, *i.e.,* water mains, gas mains, Sewers, telephone and electrical power cables and wires or the relocations of existing structures located within public rights-of-way.

#### Construction shall not require the relocation or reconstruction of existing storm Sewers or drainage structures.

#### Costs of construction of Sewer service lines involving work in excess of that as set forth in the presumed conditions above must be paid by the applicant upon presentation of an estimate by LRWS before construction can begin. The permit applicant may contract to have such work done at his expense and subject to LRWS inspection and approval. In this case, LRWS shall not charge a tap fee, however, a Sewer tap inspection fee shall be paid by the permit applicant if connection is made at his expense.

### All costs and expenses incident to the installation and connection of the Building Lateral to the property line (including connection to the service lateral) and the subsequent abandonment of any septic tank or cesspool shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the LRWS from any losses or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the Building Lateral.

### No Person shall maintain or make a connection of roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, areaway drains or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a Building Lateral connected directly or indirectly to a public Sanitary Sewer.

### Before any underground portions of the Building Lateral are covered, the applicant for the Building Lateral connection shall notify LRWS when the Building Lateral is ready for inspection and connection to the public Sewer. The connection thereof shall be made to the public Sewer only after inspection and approval by LRWS.

### All excavations for Building Lateral installations shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazards. Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the appropriate agency.

### The Property Owner is responsible for the costs of all maintenance and repair to the Building Lateral

# DISCHARGES TO LRWS’s WASTEWATER SYSTEM

## Wastewater Discharges. It shall be unlawful to discharge any Wastewater Pollutant or other material into any portion of LRWS’s Wastewater System except in accordance with a LRWS Wastewater Acceptance Agreement or when authorized by the General Manager of LRWS or his designee in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.

## Prohibition of Unpolluted Water. Unpolluted water, including but not limited to non-contact Cooling Water, process water or blow-down from cooling towers or evaporative coolers shall not be discharged through direct or indirect connection to the Wastewater System unless a Wastewater Acceptance Agreement specifically authorizing such discharge has been issued by LRWS. Additionally, Wastewater generated using a water source other than that supplied by LRWS, shall not be discharged into the Wastewater System without specific permission of the General Manager of LRWS or his designee.

## General Discharge Prohibitions. No User shall contribute or cause to be contributed, directly or indirectly, any Pollutants or Wastewater which will interfere with the operation or performance of LRWS’s Wastewater System. These general prohibitions apply to all Users of the Wastewater System whether or not the User is subject to National Categorical Pre-Treatment Standards or any other national, State, or local Pre-Treatment standards or requirements. A User may not contribute the following substances to the system:

### Any liquids, solids, or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are, or may be, sufficient either alone or by interaction with other substances to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any other way to the system or to the operation of the system. At no time, shall two successive readings on an explosive gas monitor, at the point of discharge into the system (or at any point in the system) be more than five percent (5%) nor any single reading over ten percent (10%) of the Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) of the meter. Prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethers, alcohol’s, ketones, aldehydes, peroxides, chlorates, perchlorates, bromates, carbides, hydrides and sulfides and any other substances which the LRWS, the State or E.P.A. has notified the User is a fire hazard or a hazard to the system.

### Solid or viscous substances which can cause obstruction to the flow in a Sewer or other Interference with the operation of the Wastewater Treatment facilities such as, but not limited to: grease, garbage with particles greater than one-half inch (1/2”) in any dimension, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides or fleshings, entrails, whole blood, feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rag, spent grains, spent hops, waste paper, wood, plastics, gas, tar, asphalt residues, residues from refining, or processing of fuel or lubricating oil, mud, or glass grinding or polishing wastes.

### Any Wastewater having a pH less than 5.0 or more than 9.5 or Wastewater having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and/or personnel of the system.

### Any Wastewater, containing Toxic Pollutants in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other Pollutants, to exceed the limitation set forth in a Categorical Pre-Treatment Standard or to injure or interfere with any Wastewater Treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the system. A Toxic Pollutant shall include but not be limited to any Pollutant identified pursuant to Section 307 (a) of the Act.

### Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, or solids which either singly or by interaction with other wastes is sufficient to prevent entry of LRWS staff into the Sewers for maintenance and repair.

### Any substance which may cause the system’s effluent or any other product of the system such as residues, sludges, or scums, to be unsuitable for reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process. In no case shall a substance discharged to the system cause the system to be in non-compliance with sludge use or disposal criteria, guidelines or regulations developed under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”), Part 503; any criteria, guidelines or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or State criteria applicable to the sludge management method being used.

### Any substance which will cause the Treatment Plant to violate its NPDES and/or ND Permit or the receiving water quality standards.

### Any Wastewater with objectionable color not removable in the Treatment process, such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solution.

### Any Wastewater having a temperature which will inhibit biological Activity in the Treatment Plant resulting in Interference but in no case Wastewater with a temperature which exceeds 40 degrees C (104 degrees F).

### Any Pollutants, including oxygen demanding Pollutants (BOD; etc.) released at a flow rate and/or Pollutant concentration which a User knows or has reason to know will cause Interference to the system. In no case shall a slug load have a flow rate or contain concentration or quantities of Pollutants that exceed for any time period longer than fifteen (15) minutes more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentration, quantities, or flow during normal operation.

### Any Wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the LRWS in compliance with applicable State or federal regulations.

### Any Wastewater which causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance.

## Powers and Authority of Inspectors. The LRWS or duly authorized representatives of the LRWS bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing of any Industrial User’s wastewater system in accordance with the provisions of this regulation. The LRWS or its representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any process, including metallurgical, chemical, oil refining, ceramic, paper, or other industries beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the Sewers or waterways or facilities for waste Treatment.

## Industrial Pretreatment Program. LRWS has developed and adopted, and DHEC has approved, an Industrial Pre-Treatment Program which is attached hereto and made a part of this regulation. Such program sets forth requirements for monitoring and Pre-Treatment of certain industrial wastes before such wastes can be discharged to LRWS’s Wastewater System. Compliance with the requirements of this Industrial Pre-Treatment program is a condition precedent to an affected Industrial User being issued a Wastewater Acceptance Agreement.

## Grease Trap Program. No food preparation establishment may be issued a Wastewater Acceptance Agreement or connect to, either directly or indirectly LRWS’s Wastewater System without having a Grease Trap installed and approved by LRWS. If a building or structure possessing an existing Wastewater Acceptance Agreement changes use and becomes a food preparation establishment, it must install a Grease Trap meeting LRWS specifications. At such time as LRWS develops and adopts a Grease Trap program designed to prevent grease, fats and oils from food preparation establishments from entering its Wastewater System this Grease Trap program shall become a part of this regulation.

## State Requirements. State requirements and limitations on discharges shall apply in any case where they are more stringent than federal requirements and limitations or those in this regulation.

## Excessive Discharge. No User shall ever increase the use of process water or, in any way, attempt to dilute a discharge as a partial or complete substitute for adequate Treatment to achieve compliance with the limitations contained in the Federal Categorical Pre-treatment Standards, or in any other Pollutant-specific limitation developed by the LRWS or DHEC.

# PENALTIES

## Civil Penalties. Any Person or User who is found to have violated any provision of the Sewer Use Regulations by LRWS or who willfully or negligently failed to comply with any provision of this regulation, and the orders, rules, regulations and permits issued hereunder by LRWS shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $100.00 nor more than $2,000.00 per violation per day and/or shall be required to reimburse LRWS for the actual cost of investigation, documentation, testing, prosecution, recovery or repair of the damage caused by the violation. Each day upon which a violation shall occur or continue shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense with the penalties to be charged on a daily basis. In addition to the penalties imposed by LRWS as set for herein above, LRWS shall be further entitled to commence civil litigation against any Persons or entity found to have violated this regulation, or the orders, rules, regulations, and permits hereunder for the recovery of any actual, compensatory, special, or punitive damages, in addition to the recovery of reasonable attorneys fees, court costs, litigation expenses, to include court reporter fees and expert witness fees, as well as any other cost, fees or expenses as deemed appropriate by the Trier of fact.

## Falsifying Information. Any Person who knowingly makes false Statements, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant to this regulation, or Wastewater Acceptance Agreement, or who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring devise or method required under this regulation shall be subject to the civil penalties and associated charges set forth in Section VI.A above.

# CONFLICT

This regulation shall be in full force and effective from and after its passage, approval, and publication, as provided by law.