



Statement of Qualifications for:

ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS AND ON-CALL SERVICES

October 17, 2022





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Mr. Jake Broom Chief Operating Officer Municipal Association of South Carolina PO Box 12109 Columbia, SC 29211

**RE:** Engineering Services for Various Projects and On-Call Services

#### Dear Mr. Broom:

The Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) needs a team that understands the critical details that will define the success of projects and has proven expertise in handling the specifics associated with water systems, wastewater systems, construction, maintenance and federal funding as it relates to the American Rescue Plan Act. WK Dickson brings this experience and expertise along with funding and regulatory professionals that will serve as a valuable resource when navigating project design and construction using federal funds.

WK Dickson will treat all projects arising from this general selection like major assignments and will act as an extension of the specific municipalities' staff when communicating and seeking solutions. Thoughtful planning and close coordination will develop the best strategies, prepare sound and defensible results, and complete successful projects that exceed your current and future needs.

#### So why select WK Dickson?

Our Leadership – WK Dickson is a long-established firm in the Southeast with roots dating back to 1929. It takes a special kind of company to withstand the economic challenges, ever-changing regulatory demands, and escalating construction costs our industry has experienced. Our leadership's commitment to providing quality service and building trusting relationships has made us a preferred provider for almost a century.

**Proven success as an engineering consultant** – Our team serves as a consultant for many municipalities and utility systems throughout the Carolinas. We have built our reputation on being responsive, flexible, and on the ability to design practical and scalable solutions for our clients. We are a dependable consultant and look forward to building a relationship with the MASC and the identified municipalities through these projects.

Deep bench of resources – As a firm with staff across the Southeast, we also have a wealth of knowledge and experience to supplement our resources in South Carolina providing innovative solutions that have been demonstrated in other utility systems. With multiple project management teams and a deep bench of design support from our Columbia, Greenville and Charleston offices, we have the capacity and technical expertise to address a variety of projects. By selecting a team that can successfully complete water/wastewater projects, the municipalities will get the best of both worlds - personal attention from a local team tailored to meet their needs with creative ideas from across the region.

Mr. Broom October 17, 2022 Page 2

**Funding Expertise -** At WK Dickson, we pride ourselves on being experts in the "art of funding." This expertise in obtaining funding for a wide variety of infrastructure projects, from water, wastewater and stormwater systems, to parks, streetscapes, and airports, is a part of what has made WK Dickson so successful over the last 93 years. In just the last decade alone, we have successfully secured funding and assisted with the administration of funds from a variety of state and federal programs and other project-specific sources totaling close to \$1 billion for our clients throughout the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Success for WK Dickson is tied directly to the success and satisfaction for any municipality with which we work. Unlike other business models, simply meeting our financial goal on a project does not determine our success - it is defined by building and maintaining a long-term relationship that allows us to understand your needs, big or small, and to deliver the right strategy for our clients every time. Ultimately, it is the journey, not the destination, that will define our success.

We look forward to the opportunity to show you how we work in partnership with our clients - as a team sharing the common goal of success. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do for you. Thank you for the opportunity.

WK Dickson & Co., Inc.

Jeremy Brashears, PE Vice President

Regional Water/Wastewater

Practice Leader

Angela Mettlen Vice President

Director of Strategic Funding &

Regulatory Affairs



### INTRODUCTION

WK DICKSON IS A COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTING FIRM SPECIALIZING IN THE GROWTH OF COMMUNITIES SINCE 1929.

With over 200 individuals on staff, WK Dickson maintains 12 branch offices in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee. We have provided services for water and sewer utility infrastructure, stormwater and watershed sciences, and transportation and community development throughout the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Georgia for over 91 years.

As an on-call consultant for communities across the Southeast, we have worked on projects of all types and sizes, including studies, evaluations, design, and construction administration. In this role, we realize we must respond quickly to projects large and small, and the depth of our relationships with these clients speaks to our responsiveness.

While we are a regional firm, our water and wastewater group provides local project managers and resources in each of our offices. With support from our regional offices, the services anticipated for this effort will be provided from our offices in Columbia, Greenville and Charleston. Each of these offices is staffed with an array of engineers, designers, and GIS professionals. This team has recently worked together on numerous water distribution and wastewater collection, treatment plan design and evaluation, modeling, and capital planning projects throughout the Carolinas.

Our team also includes partners across the state that we utilize for specialty or extended services in each region and according to availability. Some of the services provided by these partners may include survey, geotechnical services, structural engineering, right-of-way acquisition, subsurface utility exploration and other services. We maintain an extensive list of pre-qualified partners to best suit the needs of each project and schedule and will incorporate the appropriate partners to the team once each specific project is identified.

WK Dickson Office Locations



A HISTORY OF **SUCCESS** 

ENR SOUTHEAST TOP 50 DESIGN FIRM

120

is the number of on-call contracts WK Dickson has served in the past five years.

We bring the right blend of responsiveness, innovation, and expertise to projects large and small. 98%

is WK Dickson's rate of client retention.

When entrusted with a community's infrastructure, they want to work with us for many years to come.

Location and Contact Information



#### WK DICKSON & CO., INC.

1320 Main Street, Suite 400 Columbia, SC 29201 Tel. 803.786.4261



#### JEREMY BRASHEARS, PE

Project Manager | Principal in Charge Mobile: 803.351.2849 jbrashears@wkdickson.com



### **TECHNICAL APPROACH AND UNDERSTANDING**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has spurred the undertaking of many infrastructure projects across the state of South Carolina and will continue to do so in the coming years. The WK Dickson team has worked directly for the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA), who is administering the ARPA funding in South Carolina on recent projects including the development of the South Carolina Utility Sustainability toolkit which is being implemented by utilities and municipalities across the state in assessing their viability.

In addition, we have aided numerous utility and municipal partners through the ARPA-based South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) funding application process, totaling more than \$350 Million construction dollars applied for in the September 2022 funding round. These projects include water line extensions, water line replacements, sewer line rehabilitations, sewer line extensions, wastewater lift/pump station and force mains, water treatment facility improvements, wastewater treatment facility improvements, system evaluations and other water and sewer system improvements.

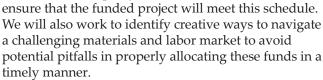
Given the varied nature of the anticipated projects to be completed under ARPA funding, the following is a general technical approach:

#### **PROJECT | FUNDING APPROACH**

Our team of adept funding and regulatory specialists and engineers will work with each municipality to review the projects awarded funding and establish a plan to ensure compliance with funding deadlines and requirements. We will provide the level of support to each municipality as their unique needs dictate in ensuring funding and programmatic compliance. We will clearly identify critical items which may include:

- Funding Requirements We will work with each municipality to ensure that it has federal procurement and funding processes, policies, and procedures in place to be in full compliance with the applicable 2CFR200 requirements. Our team will also provide funding administration support throughout the project to include bidding/procurement compliance, project reporting and reimbursement coordination.
- Project Requirements We will work with each municipality to finalize the needs for the project identified. Our goal will be to identify how these needs can be packaged into a project that meets the specific requirements of this funding program and its very specific requirements.

• Project Schedule – ARPA funds are required to be committed by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026. We will work with each municipality to



 Preliminary Regulatory Review – We will identify likely regulatory requirements during the planning stage of each project. We will utilize our knowledge of South Carolina regulatory agencies and staff to provide an assessment of viability per the anticipated schedule for a successful project.

#### FIELD RECONNAISSANCE

The WK Dickson team will identify existing data available to the municipality, review the existing data and detail additional field information that will be needed to engineer and permit the project for construction. These needs may include survey, subsurface utility exploration, wetlands delineation, floodplain impact services, utility inspection / operation, etc.

#### PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING

The WK Dickson team will utilize the data obtained from field reconnaissance and the project planning stages to complete a 30% conceptual design of the project. This conceptual design will be submitted to the municipality and a review meeting scheduled.

## PRELIMINARY REVIEW | VALUE REVIEW | QA/QC

The project team will meet to discuss the preliminary design, determine viability of original plan and any options or alternatives that may provide additional value to the project prior to proceeding with design. Any alterations to the initial plan will be communicated to required funding agencies for concurrence and implemented accordingly in the engineering design. A quality assurance and quality control review will be completed on the chosen preliminary design. Any land or easement acquisition needs will be identified. An updated cost opinion will be provided.



#### LAND / EASEMENT ACQUISITION

The WK Dickson team will provide the level of support preferred by each municipality in obtaining any required easements or property as identified in preliminary engineering. We will also work with the municipality to communicate their best efforts to expedite the process of land acquisition. We will ensure that the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act are followed.

#### SUBSTANTIAL ENGINEERING

The WK Dickson team will utilize input from the Preliminary Review to continue with substantial design (60% / 90%), with meetings at intervals for review with the municipality as may be desirable based on the complexity of the project or preferable to each municipality's personnel. The substantial design will be submitted to the municipality and a review meeting scheduled.

## SUBSTANTIAL ENGINEERING REVIEW | CONSTRUCTABILITY REVIEW | QA-QC

The project team will meet to discuss the substantial design, confirm viability, operability and constructability of the plan as well as identify potential additional options or alternatives that may provide value to the project prior to finalizing and permitting the design. Any substantial alterations to the plan will be communicated to the required funding agencies for concurrence and implemented accordingly in final design. A quality assurance and quality control review will be completed on the final design. An updated cost opinion will be provided.

#### **FINAL ENGINEERING**

The WK Dickson team will utilize input from the Substantial Review to finalize the design. The final design will be submitted to the municipality and utilized for regulatory permitting.

#### **REGULATORY PERMITTING**

The WK Dickson project team is very experienced with working with South Carolina regulators. The needs of each project will differ for permitting, some of the agencies we are experienced in coordinating with include:

- South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) – Construction Permitting
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Crossing Waters of the State, Wetlands
- Railway Permitting Norfolk Southern, CSX and other smaller railways – Railway Encroachments
- South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT)
   Roadway Encroachments

#### **Technical Approach and Understanding**

- Stormwater Permitting (MS4) County, City, State permitting for land disturbance
- Floodplain Permitting Permitting with local agencies for any impacts in flood plain areas
- Environmental / Archaeological / Protected Species Assessments – Identification, location and mitigation for South Carolina protected resources
- Funding Agencies Keeping all participating funding agencies in the loop is critical throughout the design and construction process
- Others, as needed

#### **BIDDING**

The project team will work together to evaluate the construction environment prior to bidding the project. Challenges are anticipated in the coming years with the availability and lead time to deliver materials as well as the availability of contractors and equipment to perform the work. Our team will coordinate with the funding agencies and guide the municipality in alternative bidding and procurement solutions acceptable to the agencies in order to help keep the project on schedule while providing value to the municipality.

### CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION / CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION

The WK Dickson team will provide administration of the project during construction. This will include review of submittals and project construction schedules, holding regularly scheduled site meetings with the municipality and the contractor, review of pay applications, addressing field changes and any potential project change orders and other items that may come up during construction. Additionally, the WK Dickson team includes experienced construction observers available to provide the proper level of on-site support from part-time to full-time, based on the needs of the project and the municipalities' staff.

#### **ON-GOING FUNDING SUPPORT**

The WK Dickson team has dedicated staff who are very familiar with federally funded projects, as well as state and locally-funded projects, and the requirements imposed by such projects. Our team of funding experts will be available to provide the level of support preferred by each municipality to assure that these requirements are met.

#### **PROJECT CLOSEOUT**

The WK Dickson project team will be a partner with the municipality until the project is completed. We are prepared to provide support in ensuring that permits are properly closed out, construction is certified as being in conformance with the approved plans and specifications, and that the funding agencies receive the documentation needed to finalize the project.



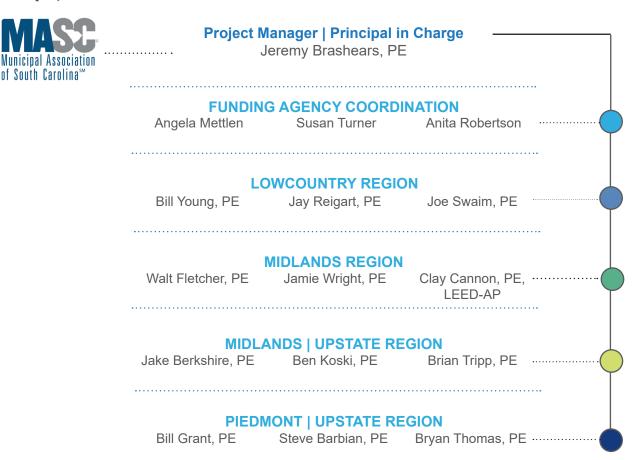
### WORK MANAGEMENT PLAN/ EXPERIENCE OF PROPOSAL PERSONNEL

#### THE PROJECT TEAM KEY TO YOUR PROJECT AND FUNDING SUCCESS

WK Dickson has demonstrated experience as a successful on-call services provider with communities across the Carolinas. The Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and any municipality that we are selected to assist will have peace of mind knowing that our team is on top of all the critical project details, as well as routine project operations. Jeremy Brashears, PE, will serve as the primary point of contact. As

tasks are identified, we will work closely with your staff to understand the project needs and match with the professionals with the best combination of skills and experience needed for success on each task.

The WK Dickson team includes highly qualified in-house staff for funding, regulatory compliance, planning, engineering, permitting and construction administration of water and sewer infrastructure projects funded by federal and state monies across South Carolina. Our team also includes partners across the state that we utilize for specialty or extended services in each region and according to availability. Some of the services provided by these partners may include survey, geotechnical services, structural engineering, right-of-way acquisition, subsurface utility exploration and other services. We maintain an extensive list of pre-qualified partner to best suit the needs of each project and schedule and will incorporate the appropriate partners to the team once each specific project is identified





#### **EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS**

17 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, NC, GA, VA | NASSCO Certified | MS Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University, BS Civil Engineering, The Citadel, BS Information Management, University of South Carolina

Jeremy Brashears, PE Project Manager | Principal in Charge

NAME & TITLE

Office Location
Columbia, SC

Jeremy brings a wealth of experience in the implementation of engineering services for municipal projects throughout the past decade. He has provided similar services for sewer repair on pump stations, wastewater treatment plants, gravity sewer and force mains, and water distribution systems for clients throughout the Carolinas. As project manager, Jeremy will serve as the primary point of contact with MASC and will coordinate WK Dickson's resources to ensure timely execution of all tasks and assignments. Jeremy's project and program management experience includes the project formulation of engineering services from traditional water and sewer infrastructure design and construction through asset management program development and implementation. He has overseen numerous regulatory consent efforts including the separation of combined sewer systems, emergency response to curtail overflows and systematic development for CMOM programs and rehabilitation, and has aided his clients in procuring funding for many of these efforts.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study | On-Call Engineering Consultant, City of Lancaster | East Richland 52-Inch Sewer Rehab, Columbia, SC | Calks Ferry HWY 1 Tank & Booster Lexington, SC | Sawmill Branch Water Supply BPS & GST, Summerville, SC | City of Georgetown WTP Improvements, Georgetown, SC



Angela Mettlen Funding Agency Coordination

Office Location
Greenville, SC

30 years of experience | BS BioScience/Bioengineering, Clemson University

Angie brings over three decades of engineering, grant writing and administration, project management, and regulatory permitting experience throughout the Carolinas and Tennessee. She is an expert in regulatory and governmental issues regarding environmental quality and utility planning. Angie has become an expert in grant and funding for infrastructure projects and has assisted units of government throughout the Southeast. She has worked closely with regional Councils of Government, the state Departments of Commerce (CDBG and economic development programs), the US Economic Development Administration, the US Rural Development Administration, the US Environmental Protection Agency and other state and federal funding agencies. In this capacity, Angie has aided clients in the writing, preparation, and administration of grant and loan applications and the resulting funds.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study | On-Call Engineering Consultant, City of Lancaster | East Richland 52-inch Sewer Rehab, Columbia, SC | Sawmill Branch Water Supply BPS & GST, Summerville, SC | Seabrook Island HMGP Funding



Susan Turner Funding Agency Coordination

Office Location
Greenville, SC

31 years of experience | MA Earth Resources Management, University of South Carolina, BS Biology, Francis Marion College

Susan brings a unique perspective to the WK Dickson team as she previously spent over 30 years as an Environmental Health Manager and Director with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control providing management and supervision over the drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater programs. Her expertise provides an added value to our team during inspections, investigations, providing technical assistance, and through the permitting and regulatory process of infrastructure projects. Susan's intimate knowledge of the state funding process, as well as one-of-a-kind federal and state funding opportunities such as the ARPA funding, is a critical asset to our team in helping communities fund local water and wastewater projects.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Sawmill Branch Water Supply BPS & GST, Summerville, SC | Surf City ARPA SW Funding | ReWa Funding Support | Greenwood CPW ARPA Funding Assistance | Berkeley County Water & Sanitation Authority Funding Support



Anita Robertson Funding Agency Coordination

Office Location Raleigh, NC

21 years of experience | Professional Engineer: NC | NASSCO Certified | BS Environmental Engineering, California Polytechnic State University

Anita has over 21 years of progressive engineering and management experience, including process design, remediation engineering, municipal water and wastewater engineering, project management, state and local environmental permitting, state and federal funding program administration, and asset management. Over the course of her career, she has provided technical oversight of funding and review of state SRF programs, including compliance with Uniform Guidelines, Davis-Bacon, American Iron and Steel, Buy American, and other regulatory and grant requirements.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study | Sawmill Branch Water Supply BPS & GST, Summerville, SC | Woodruff-Roebuck Water District ARPA Funding Support, South Carolina | Bakersville ARPA Water and Sewer Funding Support



#### NAME & TITLE EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

28 years of experience  $\mid$  Professional Engineer: SC, NC  $\mid$  MBA Business Administration, Georgia State, MS Civil Engineering, State University of New York, BS Civil Engineering, University of Connecticut

Bill Young, PE Lowcountry Region

Office Location
Charleston, SC

Bill is a registered professional engineer with 28 years of experience in all facets of the planning, design, permitting, construction and management of water and wastewater treatment facilities as well as distribution and conveyance systems. As branch manager of WK Dickson's Charleston office, Bill oversees complex utility projects throughout the state. He has guided the development of numerous engineering reports and alternatives analysis to help clients find the best and most economical long-term solutions for their utility management needs.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Sawmill Branch Water Supply, Summerville, SC | Sandy Island Raw Water Supply Improvements, Georgetown County Water and Sewer District, Pawleys Island, SC | City of Georgetown WTP, Georgetown, SC



Jay Reigart, PE Lowcountry Region

Office Location Charleston, SC

35 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, GA, TN | NASSCO Certified | BS Marine Biology, University of South Carolina, BS Civil Engineering, University of South Carolina

Jay has more than 32 years of engineering experience in the state of South Carolina. Over the course of his career, he has managed, designed or assisted in designing numerous projects, including pump station, force main, and gravity sewer design for new, rehabbed, and replacement facilities; small and large-bore cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) rehabilitations; system-wide studies of municipal, water, wastewater, and drainage systems with modeling, capital improvement planning, and design; analysis and design of particular problem areas for municipalities.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

East Richland 54-Inch Sewer Trunk Line Rehab, Columbia, SC | Hwy 52 Transmission Main, Berkeley County, SC | Highway 78 Water and Sewer Relocation, Ridgeville, SC | Noisette Pump Station Upgrade, Charleston, SC



Joe Swaim, PE Lowcountry Region

Office Location Charleston, SC

14 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, NC, VA | NASSCO Certified | BS Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University

Joe is a registered engineer and experienced project manager with 14 years of experience in civil engineering with a focus on water distribution, wastewater, stormwater and underground infrastructure rehabilitation. Prior to joining the firm, he served as senior project manager for the City of Charleston where he was responsible for initiating and managing multiple capital improvement projects for the city including budget development, procurement, technical and permitting oversight and stakeholder outreach.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Design lead for 34" to 48" water transmission lines from local municipality and water agency to data center | Lead project engineer for sewer rehabilitation projects | Multiple pipeline design and utility relocation projects\* (pre WK Dickson)



Walt Fletcher, PE Midlands Region

Office Location Columbia, SC

19 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC | NASSCO Certified | MS Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University, BA Chemistry, The Citadel,

Walt is a registered professional engineer with 19 years of experience in the study, design, permitting, bidding and construction of sewer rehabilitation, water and wastewater treatment facilities and conveyance systems. His experience includes water/ wastewater system rehabilitation, water/wastewater/reuse pipeline design, pumping station design, wastewater process design, water system planning, program/project management, and commissioning and start-up of facilities.

#### **Relevant Project Experience**

East Richland 54-Inch Sewer Trunk Line Rehab, Columbia, SC | Seabrook Island Pump Station FEMA Hazard Mitigation, Seabrook Island, SC | Sandy Island WTP Raw Water Supply Improvement, Pawleys Island, SC



Jamie Wright, PE Midlands Region

Office Location Columbia, SC

39 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, GA | NASSCO Certified | BS Civil Engineering, Clemson University

Jamie brings a wealth of knowledge related to municipal infrastructure that will help our team mobilize quickly and effectively. He is highly experienced in the design of wastewater collection systems, including gravity sewers, pump stations, and force mains.

#### **Relevant Project Experience**

54-Inch Sewer Trunk Line Rehabilitation, Columbia, SC | Calks Ferry Hwy 1 Tank & Booster, Lexington, SC | Saluda River Sanitary Sewer Interceptor, West Columbia, SC | Charter Oak Elevated Tank, Lexington, SC



#### **Experience of Proposed Personnel**

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#### **EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS**

22 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC | BS Civil Engineering, Clemson Clay Cannon, PE, University

> Clay brings over 22 years of civil engineering and project management experience to the team. He performs a variety of engineering and managerial duties and remains involved throughout all phases of a project. His specialties include recreational layouts, geometric roadway design, traffic control, grading plans, parking layouts, stormwater detention systems, and municipal sanitary sewer system and water system design.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

NAME & TITLE

Bookman Road Elementary Improvements, Columbia, SC | Asheville Stormwater Utility Fee Study, Asheville, NC | Clemson Core Campus Site Development, Clemson, SC | Aiken Barnwell MHC Site Plan, Aiken, SC



Jake Berskshire, PE Midlands | Upstate Region

Office Location Charlotte, NC

LEED-AP

Midlands Region

Office Location

Columbia, SC

12 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, NC | NASSCO Certified | MS Civil Engineering, University of North Carolina, BS Civil Engineering, University of North

Jake serves as technical manager in our Charlotte office. With 12 years of experience, Jake has proven himself to be a valuable asset in the development of design plans, profiles, technical specifications, and permitting packages. His project experience spans a variety of designs including water treatment and distribution, wastewater collection and pumping, as well as system evaluations and rehabilitation. His duties have also included monitoring project budgets, permitting coordination, production of reports and GIS maps, contract documents, and construction administration.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Lancaster WWTP Services, City of Lancaster, SC | East Richland 54-Inch Sewer Trunk Line Rehab, Columbia, SC | Charter Oak Elevated Tank, Lexington, SC | City of Anderson Sewer Rehabilitation, Anderson, SC



Ben Koski, PE Midlands | Upstate Region

Office Location Charlotte, NC

11 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, NC | BS Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University

Ben brings over 11 years of experience in the engineering field. He has a broad background in design of water and wastewater infrastructure. His expertise includes hydraulic modeling of existing and proposed water and sanitary sewer systems, design and permitting of multiple sanitary sewer pump stations and associated line work. Ben is experienced with AutoCAD Civil 3D, Innovyze InfoSewer, Microstation and ArcGIS.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Rimer Pond-Hard Scrabble Water Main, Columbia, Sc | CDBG Meter Vault Replacement, City of Lancaster, SC | Hwy 89 Water Main River Crossing, Greenville, SC | Lancaster Air Rail Park RIA Water Lines, Lancaster, SC



Brian Tripp, PE Midlands | Upstate Region

Office Location Charlotte, NC

25 years of experience | Professional Engineer: NC, SC, TN, GA | Board Certified Environmental Engineer | ME Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of South Carolina, BS Biosystems Engineering, Clemson University

Brian has over 25 years of professional experience in civil and environmental engineering. During his career he has been involved with aiding our client partners through challenges in treatment, collection, conveyance and distribution projects. Brian has overseen all aspects of environmental projects including project assessment and development, funding, design, permitting, operational maintenance and training. In addition, Brian has been involved with CMOM program efforts, vulnerability assessments, risk management plans and numerous SSES rehabilitation efforts.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study | Lancaster WWTP Services, City of Lancaster, SC | Catawba River WWTP Optimization Upgrade, Lancaster, SC | CDBG Meter Vault Replacement, City of Lancaster, SC | City of Clinton Utility Study



#### **Experience of Proposed Personnel**

NAME & TITLE	EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS
Bill Grant, PE Piedmont   Upstate Region  Office Location Greenville, SC	36 years of experience $\mid$ Professional Engineer: SC, NC, VA $\mid$ BS Civil Engineering, Clemson University
	Over his 36 year career, Bill has successfully managed and led design teams for a variety of projects for municipal, institutional, and private development clients. His engineering and project management expertise in the water and wastewater industry has led to many successful projects throughout the Carolinas and Virginia. Prior to joining WK Dickson, Bill oversaw the Public Works Capital Program for Union County, NC. With over three decades of experience in utilities engineering and operations, Bill integrates closely with clients throughout the project life cycle from conceptualization through design review, construction and project closeout to provide value as an extension of the client's staff.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Water Treatment Planning Study, Belton-Honea, SC | City of Anderson Sewer Rehabilitation, Anderson, SC | City of Clinton Utility Study, Clinton, SC | Lancaster Water and Wastewater Master Plan, Lancaster, SC



Steve Barbian, PE Piedmont | Upstate Region

Office Location
Greenville, SC

12 years of experience  $\mid$  Professional Engineer: SC, NC, TN, VA  $\mid$  BS Civil Engineering, Rose Hulman Institute of Technology

Steve has over 12 years of water and wastewater design and construction administration experience. His breadth of expertise includes water transmission, wastewater collection, water treatment, and wastewater treatment projects. Steve has seen multiple linear and treatment type projects through the full life-cycle from concept creation, design, construction, and into operation. His experience in design and construction administration have given him the tools to lead the design efforts on projects and tackle any issues that may be encountered during design or construction.

#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

Sawmill Branch Water Supply BPS & GST, Summerville, SC | Water Treatment Planning Study, Belton-Honea, SC | City of Clinton Utility Study, Clinton, SC | Landrum Raw Waterline Improvements, Landrum, SC



Bryan Thomas, PE Piedmont | Upstate Region

Office Location
Greenville, SC

22 years of experience | Professional Engineer: SC, NC, GA | BS Civil Engineering, University of South Carolina

Bryan has 22 years of progressive project management experience in the planning, design, and construction administration of a wide variety of civil engineering and land development projects. His focus is efficient project delivery methods and highly-responsive project communication in an effort to provide excellent client service. Bryan has significant experience in urban infrastructure projects for municipalities, higher education and institutional development, and commercial and industrial sites. His work also includes natural gas transmission and distribution pipelines and facilities; and residential, transportation and railway developments.

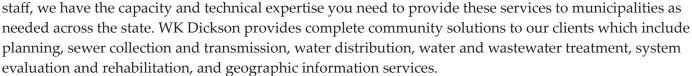
#### **Relevant Project Experience:**

RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study | Rimer Pond- Hard Scarbble Water Main, Columbia, SC | Traveler's Rest Pump Station Evaluation, Traveler's Rest, SC | | Hwy 86 Water Main River Crossing Study, Greenville, SC

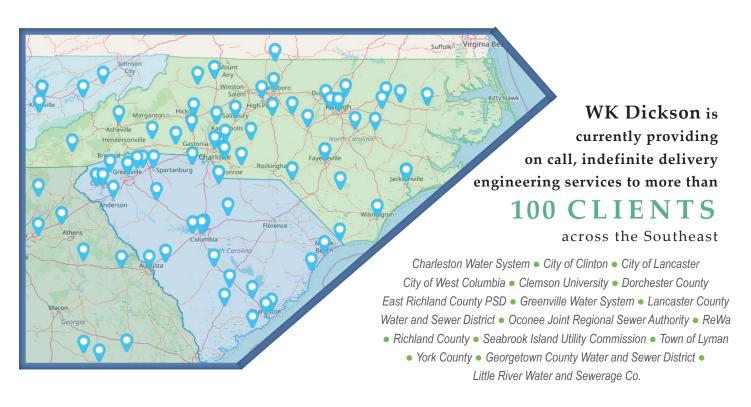


### **EXPERIENCE OF THE FIRM**

The Municipal Association of South Carolina is identifying consultants that can quickly be prepared to assist water and wastewater utilities across South Carolina in implementing projects that are funded through RIA's SCIIP Program. These consultants must be able to proactively address critical issues that could impact the required schedule, develop solutions and effectively guide these projects to successful completion. With multiple project management teams and a deep bench of design staff, we have the capacity and technical expertise you need to provide these services to



As an on-call consultant for communities across the Southeast, we have worked on projects of all sizes, including evaluations, design, permitting, cost estimates, bidding and construction administration. In this role we respond efficiently to projects large and small, and the depth of our relationships with these clients speaks to our responsiveness. We have demonstrated experience as a successful on-call services provider for water systems, sanitary sewer systems, and treatment plants for hundreds of communities throughout the Carolinas.



#### **Experience of the Firm**

#### RIA Water and Sewer Sustainability Study South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority Client Contact: Bonnie Ammons, Executive Director ph: 803.737.0390 | e: bammons@ria.sc.gov

In an effort to build partnerships to increase water and sewer system capacity and viability, and to put communities in a position to successfully compete for economic development opportunities, the



South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) partnered with the WK Dickson/Raftelis team in February 2021 to conduct a multi-disciplinary study of water and sewer systems statewide to be completed by the end of December 2021. This effort consists of the following major tasks:

#### Task 1: Statewide Water & Sewer Assessment -

This task includes the development of a high-level state-wide assessment of the water and sewer infrastructure systems to establish the current state of these systems. This will provide the baseline of where the status of these systems and to understand the magnitude of the need, whether it be financial, managerial, operational, or technical.

Task 2: Statewide Water & Sewer Sustainability Strategy- This task will utilize the data and information being developed from the assessment to develop a statewide strategy based on the specific needs and challenges facing water and sewer systems that will incorporate viability benchmarking metrics, tools, resources, funding, assessment protocols and law/policy changes needed to support the state-wide strategy.

**Task 3: SC Water & Sewer Sustainability Forum/ Workshop -** The task involves working with SCRIA to plan and implement a SC Water Utility Forum. The forum allowed water utility stakeholders to learn about the findings of the project, participate in interactive sessions, give feedback, and network with peers.

Task 4: SC Water & Sewer Sustainability
Study Report - The final part of the project is
the compilation of a report that incorporates the
statewide assessment information, the viability
strategy, and resources, along with information
obtained through the forum. This project will result
in the identification of issues facing water and sewer
utilities with regards to long-term viability and the
common elements that indicate viability concerns,
which will provide regulatory and funding agencies
a way to identify potentially non-viable systems
and provide assistance earlier through a state-wide
viability strategy consisting of resources, tools and a
unified approach.

## On-Call Engineering Consultant City of Lancaster, SC

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: City of Lancaster, SC Client Contact: Steven "Flip" Hutfles, City Administrator ph: 803.289.1699 | e: shutfles@lancastercitysc.com

With over 43 projects completed or currently

underway, WK Dickson has served as a trusted on-call advisor and engineering consultant to the City of Lancaster for over a decade. During this time, we have helped them plan, prioritize, fund, and construct dozens of



infrastructure projects to improve and expand utility service, provide safer and more aesthetically pleasing streets and sidewalks, and bolster the local economy. We have been able to deliver these projects with the support of significant funding through CDBG, South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority, and EDA programs, enabling the City to provide critical public services without undue financial burden for their ratepayers. In response to an Administrative Order of Consent from the EPA, WK Dickson assisted the City with projects that included program development of a sewer overflow response plan, system evaluation, development of an information management system (GIS), an infrastructure rehabilitation plan, design, funding assistance, and construction oversight for evaluation and rehabilitation for over 105,000 LF of sewer and three major pump stations.



## Sawmill Branch Summerville, SC

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: Summerville Commissioners of Public Works Client Contact: Christopher Kahler | General Manager ph: 843.875.8761 | e: rckahler@bellsouth.net

In September of 2022, Summerville CPW was awarded \$8 million in Drinking Water State Revolving Funds for the Sawmill Branch Water Supply - Booster Pumping & Storage Improvements project. This project was



also submitted for SCIIP funding. The WK Dickson team provided funding support for both applications, including assisting them with navigating the complexities of an alternative delivery method, Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR), and getting approvals for this method from SCDHEC within just a few weeks of award notification.

After WK Dickson completed an update to Summerville's existing hydraulic model of their water distribution system in 2017, one of the recommended improvements included the addition of a booster pump station and 2MG of ground storage to meet current and future water demands. In addition to those improvements, this project also includes the installation of 6,900 LF of 30-inch water main to convey the additional flow demand.

The team has completed preliminary engineering including alternative operational evaluations of booster pump stations and ground storage tanks, site evaluations, transmission main recommendations, easement acquisitions, and geotechnical investigations - all of which were summarized in a detailed preliminary engineering report presented to the client. Final design has been completed to 30% and the team is currently assisting SCPW with the selection of a construction-manager-at-risk for preconstruction services. Final design will be completed by the end of 2022 with construction beginning in the second quarter of 2023.

## East Richland 54-Inch Sewer Trunk Line Rehabilitation Columbia, SC

Date Completed: 2021

Client: East Richland County Public Schools
Client Contact: Edward Schooler | Director of Administration
ph: 803.788.1570 | e: eschooler@ecrpsd.net

WK Dickson provided engineering, construction administration, regulatory, and funding coordination through SCDHEC, and public outreach services for a major sewer rehabilitation project in the Forest Lake Club community located in Richland County, SC. The project included utilization of an innovative cured-in-place pipe rehabilitation method in order to minimize the extensive land disturbances that occur with traditional pipe replacement.

In this project, approximately 8,870 linear feet of sewer trunk line and 36 manholes was rehabilitated. Because this section of trunk line was within a wellestablished residential area and crosses a golf course, the project also included extensive public outreach within this community regarding the project and its potential impacts to the area during construction. In addition, because this was an innovative construction method and the project was funded by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, close coordination with SCDHEC SRF and permitting staff was an essential task.

#### Seabrook Island Pump Station Emergency Generators Seabrook Island, SC

Date Completed 2022

Client: Seabrook Island Utility Commission Client Contact: Tommy West, Manager ph: 843.768.0102 | e: twest@siuc.org

Our team of technical and funding experts has been working with Seabrook Island Utility Commission (SIUC) for over five years as a trusted consultant on utility evaluations and improvements. Over those years, WK Dickson has been successful time and again in helping SIUC acquire over \$5M in funding initiatives from FEMA and CWSRF.

WK Dickson provided assistance to SIUC in completing a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant



#### **Experience of the Firm**

Application in response to failures from the existing pump stations during Hurricane Irma. The almost \$400,000 in awarded grant funds are being used to install six 240 kW diesel generators at six pump stations



to provide electrical power to the wastewater pumps at each station. The project also includes the installation of appropriately sized automatic transfer switches for each station, which will switch the main electrical feed to the station from the normal service line provided by the power company to the diesel generators during a power outage.

## Georgetown Water Treatment Plant Improvements Georgetown, SC

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: City of Georgetown

Contact: Orlando Arteaga, City Engineer ph: 843.545.4501 | e: oarteaga@cogsc.com

In June of 2022, Georgetown was awarded a \$3.4 million grant from the Economic Development Administration for water treatment plant upgrades needed to stimulate business and job growth. The WK

Dickson team provided application support to the city and is currently assisting with ensuring compliance with all federal requirements as the project is implemented.



The project, as described below, will provide the modern infrastructure needed to support local business needs and attract new, diversified businesses interests to a region impacted by fluctuations in the energy economy.

The City of Georgetown's Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is 6 MGD and provides drinking water to the ity's residents, industries such as International Paper and Liberty Steel, and commercial districts. The WTP had an existing 150 kW generator that was not adequately sized to provide emergency backup

power for the entire facility. Also, the City had one high service pump with a variable frequency drive (VFD), and two high service pumps with constant speed drives. WK Dickson was selected by the City in 2018 to provide engineering services to design, bid and construct a new generator and automatic transfer switch (ATS) sized to power the entire facility. The high service pump system improvements included the installation of new VFDs on two 150 HP high service pumps, demolition of the existing high service motor control center (MCC), and installation of a new 480V distribution panel, step-down transformer and 208/120V panelboard. Construction was completed while maintaining one high service pump (at a minimum) operational at all times, and with minimal power interruption for connections.

## Sandy Island Raw Water Pump Station Pawleys Island, SC

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: Georgetown Water and Sewer District Client Contact: Michael Yip, Operations Director ph: 843.546.8408 e: michaely@gcwsd.com

WK Dickson assisted GCWSD with a SCIIP application for the new intake structure and water treatment plant improvements and are working

with them the accelerate the project as much as possible while still adhering to RIA's requirements for SCIIP funds. Our team has also assisted the District in securing \$1 million in RIA funds for important



wastewater collection system improvements needed to meet the requirement of an Administrative Order issued by the US EPA.

By 2020, the existing gravity-fed raw water intake pipe for the WTP was not flowing at capacity, and GCWSD wished to identify locations for a new raw water intake and pumping station. WK Dickson was selected to evaluate alternative raw water withdrawal points and select the most desirable location for the construction of a new raw water intake and/or pump station with an initial capacity of 8 MGD and an ultimate capacity of 12 MGD. Intake alternatives included drawing water from either



the Sandy Island Ferry Canal or Willbrook Canal, which are both tributaries to the Waccamaw River. The results of the study concluded that construction of a new Willowbrook Canal raw water intake structure, screen, and gravity main to the existing raw water pump station was advantageous from both cost and non-cost perspectives. Based upon the study recommendations, GCWSD is contracting with WK Dickson to design and permit the new intake structure consisting of a concrete headwall construction with double-tee, passive wedgewire screens, 500 LF of 30-inch ductile iron intake pipe, and dredging approximately 800 LF of the Willbrook Canal.

## Water Treatment Plant Planning Study Belton-Honea Path, SC

Date Completed: Ongoing

Client: Belton-Honea Path Water Authority Client Contact: Mitch Ellenburg, General Manager ph: 864.369.7442 | e: mitch@bhp-water.com

Belton-Honea Path Water Authority (BHPWA) owns and operates a conventional surface water treatment plant (WTP) with a rated capacity of 3.87 million gallons per day (mgd). Raw water is pumped from the Saluda River to the WTP. The WTP serves the City of Belton, Town of Honea Path, Donalds Due West Water & Sewer Authority, and Broadway Water and Sewerage District.

WK Dickson was selected to study and evaluate alternatives with recommendations for the funding and design of phased improvements needed to address a consent order and provide safe and reliable drinking water to BHPWA and its customers for a 20-year planning horizon. The study deliverables include five technical memorandums to evaluate and provide recommendations for service area demands (20-year projections), raw water pumping, water treatment process and chemical systems, finished water storage and pumping, and electrical and SCADA system improvements.

A phasing and funding plan, and application support for a SC Infrastructure Investment Program Grant, will also be provided. The final study deliverable will be a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that meets the requirements of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. Our team also accelerated the initial deliverable for this study in order to define a critical project and apply for SCIIP funding to implement it.

## Calks Ferry Highway 1 Tank & Booster Station Lexington, SC

Date Completed: 2020

Client: Joint Municipal Water & Sewer Commission Client Contact: Guy Schmoltze, PE | Engineering & Construction Manager

ph: 803.359.8373 | e: gschmoltze@lcjmwsc.com

Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission (JMWSC) owns and operates the water and wastewater systems in certain unincorporated areas of Lexington County, South Carolina. To prepare for growth



in the service area, JMWSC retained WK Dickson to provide engineering services for the construction of a new two million-gallon ground storage tank and a triplex 200 HP booster pumping facility capable of pumping 7,500 gallons per minute. Grading, yard piping, buildings, electrical and approximately 2,500 LF of 36-inch ductile iron water main to connect to the existing water system were installed as part of this project.

WK Dickson provided design engineering, permitting, bidding support, construction administration and construction observation services for this project. Experience with past storage tank projects has taught us the importance of involving all partners upfront including: tank manufacturers, SCADA integrators, pumping system providers, backup power generator providers and other pertinent parties.



# FAMILIARITY WITH FEDERAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

# WK Dickson prides itself on being experts in the "Art of Funding!"

This expertise in obtaining funding for a wide variety of infrastructure projects, from water, wastewater, and stormwater systems to parks, streetscapes and airports, is a part of what has made WK Dickson so successful over the past 93 years.

With over 200 individuals on staff, WK Dickson maintains twelve branch offices in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee. We are a regional firm that provides local funding expertise and project resources in each of our offices. This framework ensures the MASC that our team can provide municipalities with local resources accompanied with regional team sharing capacity.

In South Carolina and across the Southeast, we have been very successful in helping our clients obtain and manage their funding from a wide variety of funding programs from both state and federal programs. These include Community Development Block Grants, Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF), USDA-Rural Development Loans and Grants, USEDA-Public Works Economic Development Assistance Grants, FEMA Disaster Recovery and Hazard Mitigation Grants, Golden LEAF Grants and Rural Infrastructure Grants. While these ARPA funds are new and historic, the administrative provisions are not. Having years of experience with administering projects funded by federal loan and grant programs, our team of funding experts understand the requirements that must be met for full compliance that will ensure that any use of ARPA funds is deemed eligible. With the historic influx in ARPA funds at both the state and local level, South Carolina municipalities have the opportunity to make transformational investments across the state in their water and wastewater infrastructure. The MASC can be assured that we will evaluate the most effective way to approach, evaluate, and administer this ARPA funding for any utility project for which we are selected.

Our team of funding experts is led by our Director of Strategic Funding and Regulatory Affairs,

Angie Mettlen, and is supported by regional funding experts Anita Robertson and Susan Turner. Angie has led our team in acquiring funding for numerous clients throughout the Southeast approaching \$1 Billion over the last decade alone. With the funds that we have helped secure over the years, we have also assisted our clients in the administration and management of these funds giving us a unique understanding of federal funding - from start to finish. This funding team has also been on the forefront of the ARPA process and has been advising our clients and staff on the requirements as they have been released over the last year. We will use this expertise to guide any municipalities we assist through this selection by the MASC over the next several years ensuring complete compliance with US Treasury guidance related to ARPA funds.

In this contract, WK Dickson will provide assistance to any utilities with which we work in all aspects of the stated scope of work, from developing internal processes and assessing proposed projects to providing technical advice, oversight of compliance with Federal Uniform Guidance, maintenance of project files, as well as general grant management and administration tasks. WK Dickson will not be performing any auditing services in this contract; however, we will work with the municipalities and their financial staff to ensure single audit readiness. This extends to advising these municipalities of the single audit requirement if they receive more than \$750,000 in a year. In short, the WK Dickson funding team will work with these municipalities to ensure that all ARPA funds are spent on eligible uses and administered in full compliance with the US Treasury and applicable portions of the Office of Management and Budget Uniform Guidance.



### TRUSTED FUNDING EXPERTISE

WK Dickson's expertise in obtaining funding for a wide variety of infrastructure projects, from water, wastewater and stormwater systems, to parks, streetscapes, and airports, is a part of what has made WK Dickson so successful over the last 93 years. In just the last decade alone, we have successfully secured funding from a variety of state and federal programs and other project-specific sources approaching \$ billion for our clients throughout the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Georgia.

The year 2021 brought significant legislation that will impact infrastructure spending over the next several years, including funding for water, wastewater and stormwater across the country. Our team of funding experts closely followed the legislation and implementation of the ARPA since its conception through Congress and has been advising our clients and internal staff on how best to leverage these funds in the most effective manner.

Angie Mettlen, leads our group of funding experts that can assist South Carolina municipalities in maximizing the potential to utilize all of these various funding sources and others to address the many needs that they have.

Angie has over 30 years of experience with creating funding plans for communities in South Carolina, assisting them in obtaining grant funds, and assisting them with the funds that our team helped secure. She has worked extensively with all of the SRF programs, FEMA, CDBG, USDA, economic development and other programs in that time. She has assisted many WK Dickson clients in evaluating how to identify and best position projects for potential ARPA funding and future additional grant funds noted earlier as well as how to administer these funds once they are in place. Collectively, our team has over 150 years of infrastructure funding experience with all of the previous and new funding options that are available to the county. WK Dickson will be a trusted expert to help the municipalities navigate the use and administration of these once-in-a-generation funds. Together, we will make sure ARPA dollars are used effectively and in ways that address the municipalities' specific needs and priorities.



Angie Mettlen is WK Dickson's most senior-level state and federal grant expert, having personally secured more than \$200 million for improvements throughout her career.



WK Dickson has helped communities secure nearly \$1 billion in funding through programs in the past 10 years.



WK Dickson has provided funding structure/rate support for multiple municipalities and agencies. We tailor this support to the community's unique needs and perspectives because we understand one size does not fit all.

In combination with our funding experts and commitment to success, we are confident that we can best help South Carolina municipalities to administer ARPA funds in the most effective manner that will provide for transformational investments for years to come.

A small sample of our team's experience over the years can be found on the following pages, all of which we have helped our clients apply for, obtain, and provide administration for the secured funding.



## WATER RESOURCE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS & LOW-INTEREST LOANS IN SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE, AND GEORGIA

over the last 10 years

Client	<b>Total Amount</b>	Types of Funding
North Charleston Sewer District, SC	\$500,000	RIA Grants
Seabrook Island Utility Commission, SC	\$4,000,000	FEMA-HMG, CWSRF Loans
City of Lancaster, SC	\$25,000,000	CDBG Grants, RIA Grants, CWSRF, USDA Grants
Lancaster Co. Water & Sewer District, SC	\$350,000	RIA Grants
Georgetown Co. Water & Sewer District, SC	\$1,000,000	RIA Grants
East Richland Public Service District, SC	\$6,500,000	CWSRF Loans
Marlboro Water Company, SC	\$6,300,000	CDBG Grants, USDA Loans
Gaston Rural Water District, SC	\$730,000	DWSRF Loan (100% PF)
Laurens Co. Water & Sewer Commission, SC	\$750,000	CWSRF Loans
Little River Water & Sewerage, SC	\$250,000	FEMA-HMG
Oconee Joint Regional Sewer System, SC	\$940,000	CWSRF Loans
Town of Lyman, SC	\$980,000	CWSRF Loans
Town of Sullivan's Island, SC	\$500,000	RIA Grants
Spartanburg Water System, SC	\$500,000	RIA Grants
Powdersville Water District, SC	\$500,000	RIA Grants
Mount Pleasant Waterworks, SC	\$100,000	CDBG Grants
Ellijay-Gilmer Co. Water and Sewer Authority, GA	\$1,900,000	DWSRF
Rockwood Sewer and Gas, TN	\$525,000	CDBG Grant

