

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #15: REGIONAL PRIVATE PROPERTY INFILTRATION/INFLOW (I/I) ABATEMENT PROGRAM

SUBJECT:

The Regional Special Order by Consent (SOC) addressing Sanitary Sewer Overflows requires that HRSD and the localities develop a Private Property Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) Abatement Program.

BACKGROUND:

The SOC was issued by the State Water Control Board in 2007 and requires that the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and thirteen Hampton Roads localities pursue comprehensive strategies to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and subsequent water quality and human health impacts. Among other requirements, the SOC obligates HRSD and the localities to develop a program to correct identified system deficiencies that contribute Inflow and Infiltration to the regional sanitary sewer system. Inflow and Infiltration or I/I are terms used to describe the ways that groundwater and stormwater enter into the sanitary sewer systems. Inflow is stormwater that enters into sanitary sewer systems at points of direct connection to the systems. Sources of inflow include footing/foundation drains, roof drains or leaders, downspouts, etc. These sources are typically improperly or illegally connected to sanitary sewer systems. Infiltration is groundwater that enters sanitary sewer systems through cracks and/or leaks in the sanitary sewer pipes. Cracks or leaks in sanitary sewer pipes or manholes may be caused by age related deterioration, loose joints, poor design, installation errors, damage or roots. The required I/I abatement programs will address problems with portions of the sewer systems in both the public right of way and on private property.

The Capacity Team subcommittee of the HRPDC Directors of Utilities Committee evaluated two options to address private property I/I. One option requires each locality to administer its own program and implement new ordinances, rules, and regulations to establish authority to work on private property. The second option takes advantage of HRSD's existing authority to address private property I/I.

On January 25, 2011, the HRSD Commission approved an action to offer the localities a regional program to address private property I/I, administered in coordination with the localities and funded through HRSD's rates. This program would be limited to the sewer service areas requiring rehabilitation under the SOC and would be accomplished after all feasible public side rehabilitation has been completed. HRSD estimates the cost of the program to be in the \$200-\$500 million range over 15 years. On February 2, 2011, the Directors of Utilities Committee unanimously agreed to endorse the option for a regional program.

Principal Water Resources Engineer, Ms. Whitney Katchmark, will brief the Commission on the recommended Private Property I/I Abatement Program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the development of the Regional Private Property I/I Abatement Program.