

# *Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority*

P.O. Box 416  
Edgefield, SC 29824  
Phone: 803-637-3011 Phone: 803-279-1503  
Fax: 803-637-4017

September 13, 2021

Edgefield County Council

Re: Request for funding from Edgefield County ARPA Funds to assist with Edgefield County Water & Sewer Authority Water Treatment Plant Expansion

Chairman Cooper, Vice-Chair Talbert, Councilman Campbell, Councilwoman Ireland, Councilwoman Kenyon:

The Authority is in the process of developing a Master Plan for its water infrastructure. As you know, the water infrastructure in our County and throughout our Nation needs significant upgrades. This Master Plan will be examining all aspects of the Authority's Water System from our raw water source (Savannah River), through our treatment and filtration, to our distribution system (the pipes, valves and pumps that get the water to our customers). The need for expansion of capacity at the ECWSA Water Treatment Plant is imminent. Currently the water plant is rated at producing 8.85 MGD (million gallons per day) of filtered water per day. Our peak days already reach 7.1 MGD. The Authority is looking to expand our plant capacity in the future to between 10.5 to 12.5 MGD, dependent on funding availability. This expansion is much needed based on the age of our water plant (almost 50 years old) and the expansion of the Authority's customer base in the last five years to over 11,000 customers, with over 1,000 more potential water customers in developments that have already been approved and permitted. This increased capacity will also assist with Industrial and Commercial recruitment in the future. Surplus water capacity is a major factor that industries examine when researching communities to locate new facilities.

Edgefield County Water & Sewer Authority is aware of the recent funding from the Federal Government as part of its COVID-19 relief funding to State, County, and Municipal units of government throughout the Country. The Authority also is aware that these funds are limited in how they are used. One of the approved uses is water infrastructure. The Authority is also aware of potential funds that may be available on the State level to help fund water infrastructure projects in the near future.

# *Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority*

P.O. Box 416  
Edgefield, SC 29824  
Phone: 803-637-3011 Phone: 803-279-1503  
Fax: 803-637-4017

Therefore, the Edgefield County Water & Sewer Authority Board respectfully requests that the Edgefield County Council consider committing \$1,000,000 of funding towards the Water Treatment Plant expansion. Preliminary estimates of this expansion are around \$5,000,000. The Authority would provide the remainder of the funding through other funding sources and its own funds if the project moves forward.

The Authority Board feels that this is an enormous opportunity to provide a critical upgrade to a life essential service at little cost to customer's of the Authority and would ask that Council carefully consider this request.

Sincerely,

James Earl Kennamer  
ECWSA Board Chairman

Ron Creswell  
Secretary Treasurer

Bernard Kitchens  
Boar Member

Ray Johnson  
Vice Chairman

Carroll Clark  
Board Member

Ken Smith  
Board Member

# *Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority*

P.O. Box 416  
Edgefield, SC 29824  
Phone: 803-637-3011 Phone: 803-279-1503  
Fax: 803-637-4017

Michael Washington  
Board Member

Cc: John Hare, ECWSA Administrator  
Roger LeDuc, EC Interim Administrator  
file

DRAFT