

Implementation Strategy: How do we make this happen?



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Southwest Virginia Wastewater Summit
October 24, 2005

Southwest Virginia Region Planning Districts 1, 2, & 3 Water Service Areas 1970



Legend

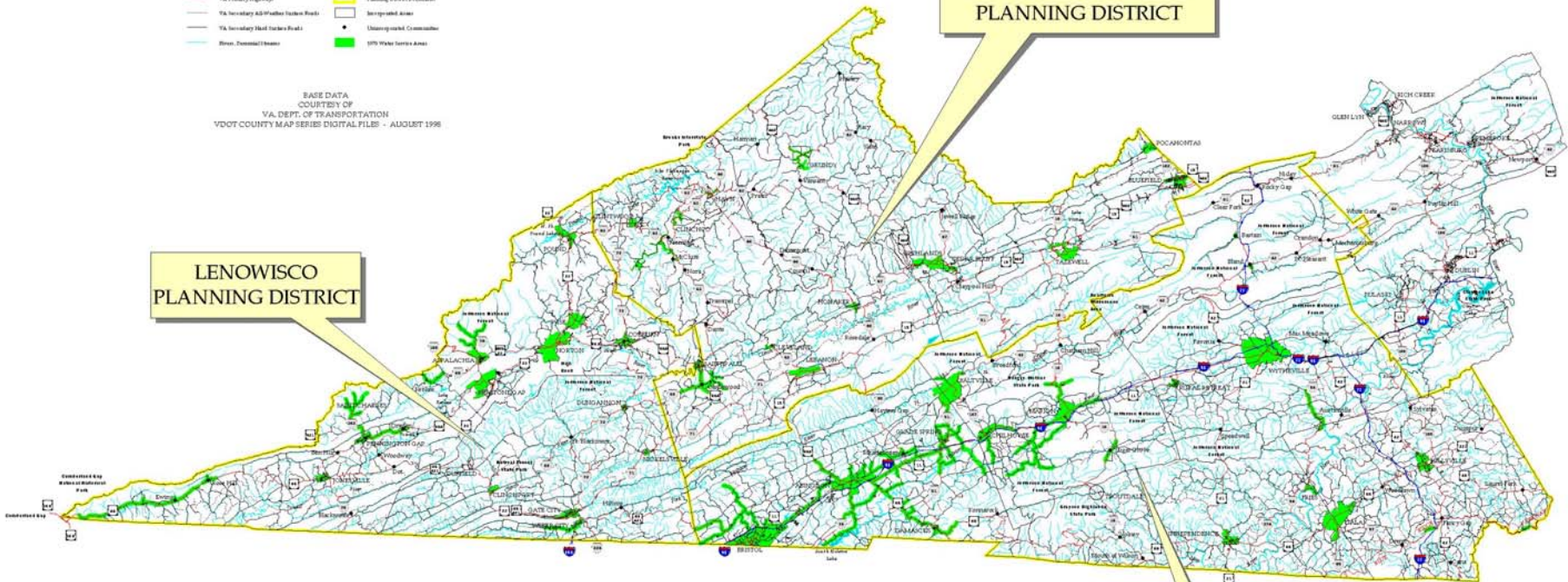
- Interstate Highways
- US Highways
- VA Primary Highways
- VA Secondary A&B Water Service Roads
- VA Secondary B&C Water Service Roads
- River, Dam, Small Reservoir
- Lakes
- County Boundary
- Planning District Boundary
- Incorporated Area
- Unincorporated Communities
- 1970 Water Service Areas

BASE DATA
COURTESY OF
VA. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
VDOT COUNTY MAP SERIES DIGITAL FILES - AUGUST 1998

LENOWISCO
PLANNING DISTRICT

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU
PLANNING DISTRICT

MOUNT ROGERS
PLANNING DISTRICT



Southwest Virginia Region Planning Districts 1, 2, & 3 Water Service Areas 2000



Legend

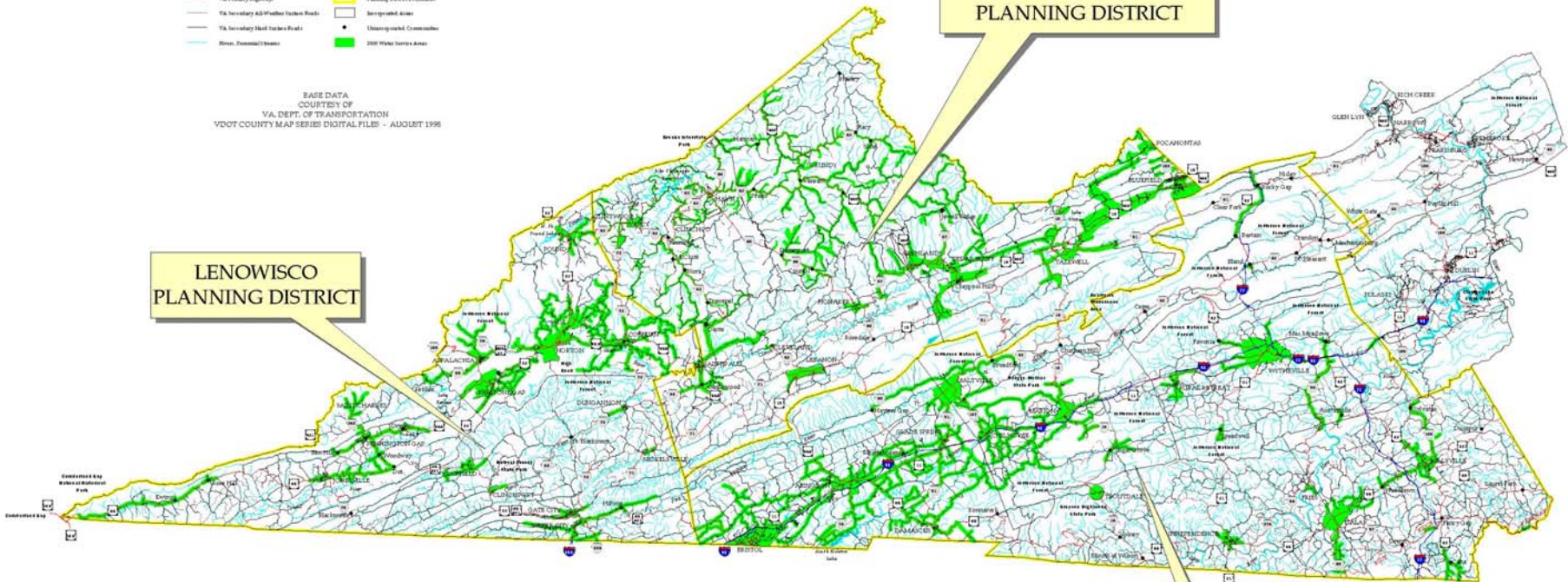
- Interstate Highways
- US Highways
- VA Primary Highways
- VA Secondary All-Weather Surface Roads
- VA Secondary Maint. Surface Roads
- River, Dammed/Leaves
- Lakes
- County Boundary
- Planning District Boundary
- Incorporated Area
- Unincorporated Communities
- 2000 Water Service Areas

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**LENOWISCO
PLANNING DISTRICT**

**CUMBERLAND PLATEAU
PLANNING DISTRICT**

**MOUNT ROGERS
PLANNING DISTRICT**



Progress since the Southwest Virginia Public Water Summit October 24, 2000

	2000			2005		
	<u>Total Housing Units</u>	<u>Housing Units w/Public Water</u>	<u>% Public Water</u>	<u>Total Housing Units</u>	<u>Housing Units w/Public Water</u>	<u>%Public Water</u>
LENOWISCO	37,244	23,464	63%	37,244	27,446	74%
Cumberland Plateau	47,262	22,213	54%	47,262	30,990	67%
Mount Rogers	78,701	40,924	52%	78,701	53,805	68%
TOTAL	163,207	86,601	53%	163,207	112,241	69%

Remaining Public Water Challenges

	<u>Housing Units w/o Public Water</u>	<u>% w/o Public Water</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
LENOWISCO	9,778	26%	\$ 63,000,000
Cumberland Plateau	16,272	33%	\$102,000,000
Mount Rogers	24,896	32%	\$ 47,000,000
TOTAL	50,946	31%	\$212,000,000

Wastewater Challenges

The background image shows a construction site. In the foreground, there is a large pile of dark soil or mulch. Behind it, an excavator is visible, along with several utility poles and power lines. In the distance, there are some buildings and a white van. The overall scene is somewhat hazy, suggesting an overcast day.

- **Serious Limitations with Existing WWTP Capacities and Undersized Transmission Lines**
- **Biodiversity of the Clinch, Powell, and Holston Rivers Affect Effluent Limits of Receiving Streams**
- **Inflow and Infiltration – Ongoing Problem**
“The Solution to Pollution is Dilution”

Wastewater Challenges



- **“Out of Sight, Out of Mind”**
- **Higher Capital Costs**
- **Higher Operation and Maintenance Costs**
- **Increased Construction Costs for all utilities due to:**
 - **Strong World Economies (China, India & Canada)**
 - **Rebuilding of Gulf Coast States**
 - **High Fuel Prices**

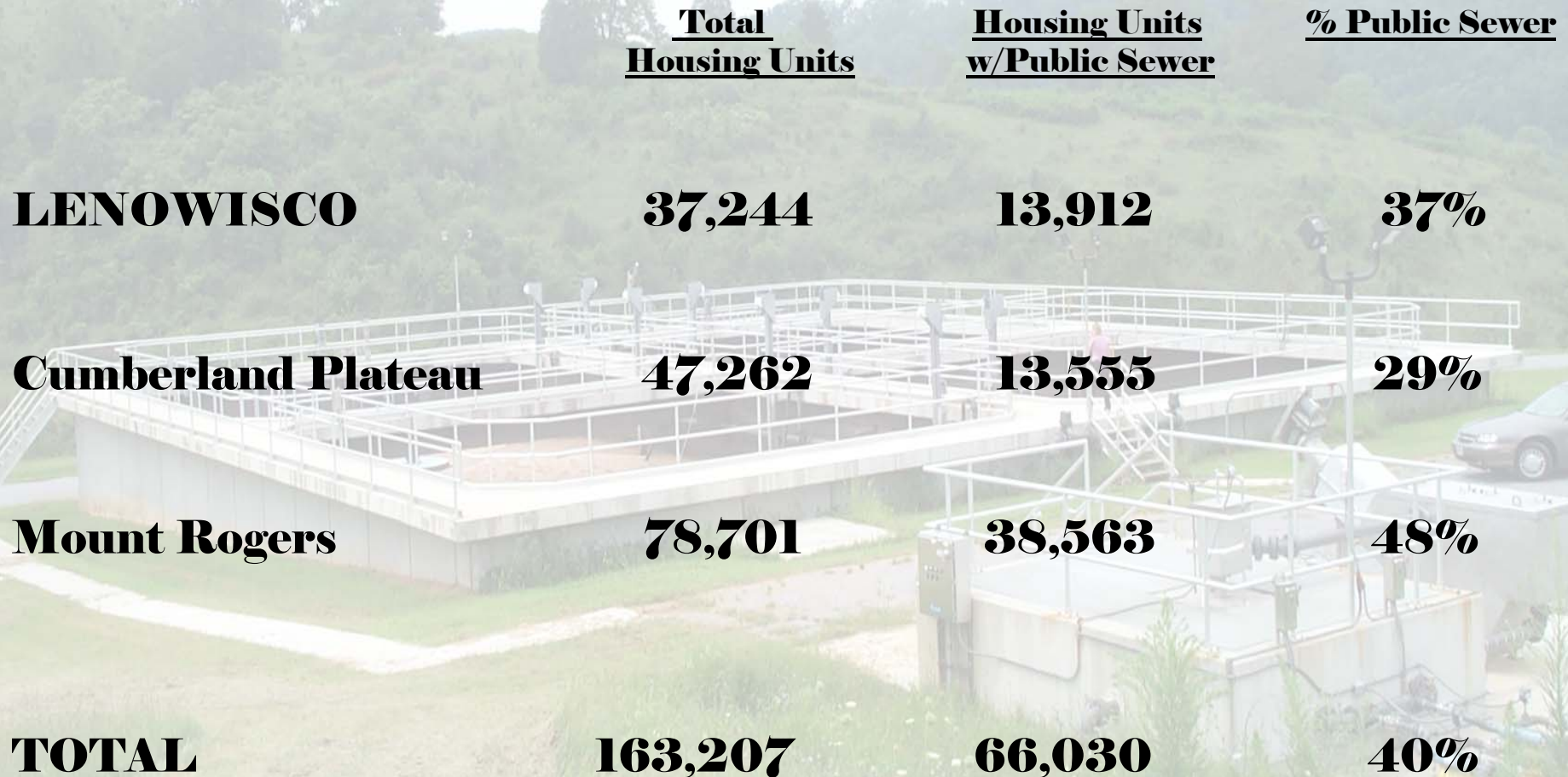
Wastewater Challenges

- **Affordable Customer Rates**

RD requires a \$33.00/month rate for 4,500 gallons usage to qualify for grant funds while water rates are only required to be only \$29.00/month for 4,500 gallons

\$62/month for utilities stretches family budgets

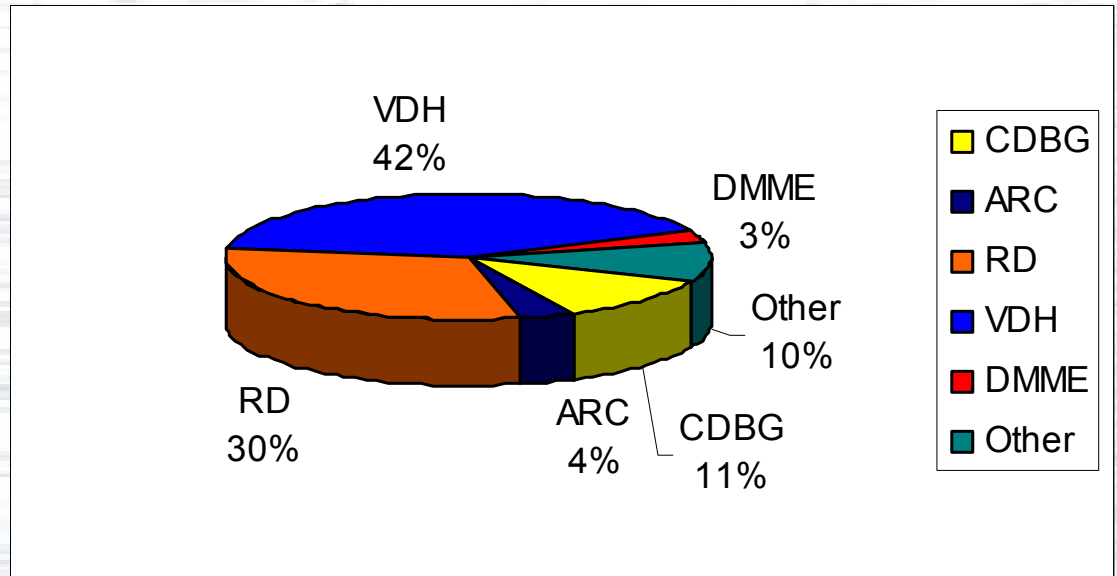
2005 Public Sewer in Southwest Virginia



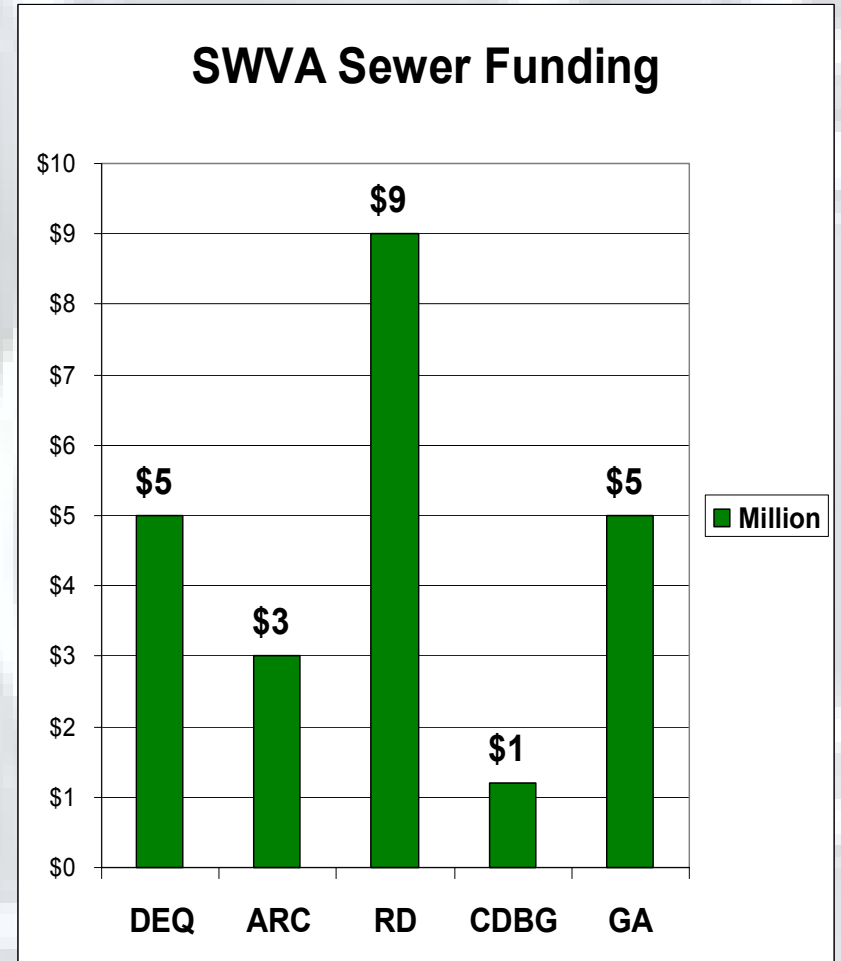
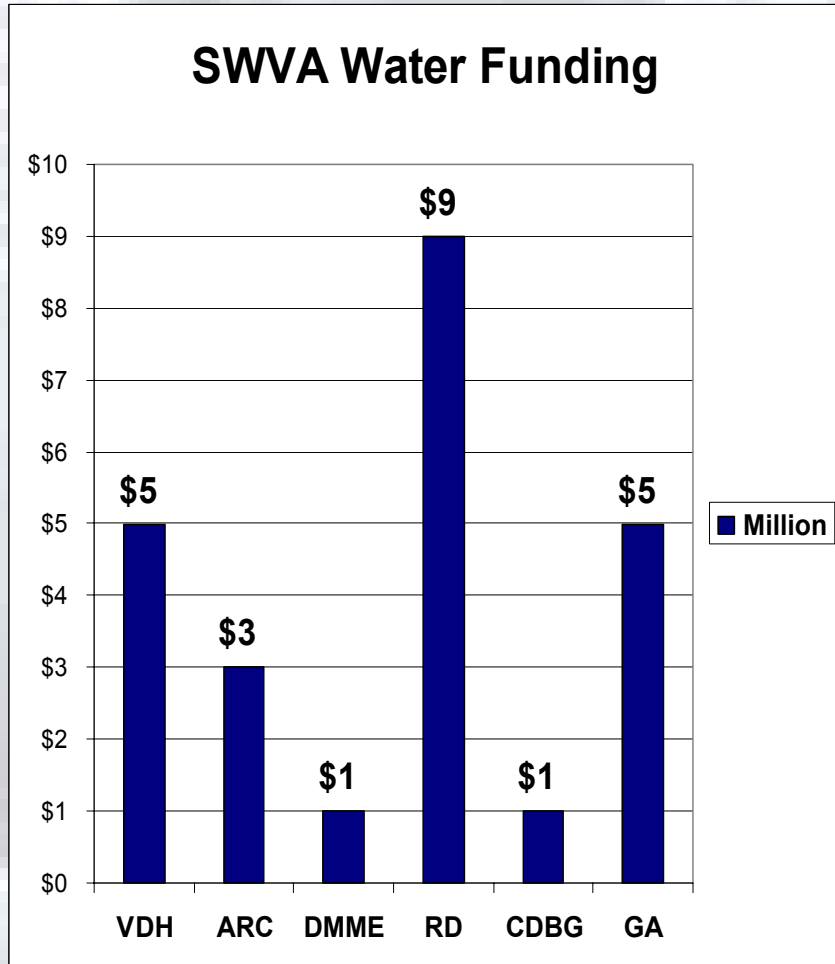
	<u>Total Housing Units</u>	<u>Housing Units w/Public Sewer</u>	<u>% Public Sewer</u>
LENOWISCO	37,244	13,912	37%
Cumberland Plateau	47,262	13,555	29%
Mount Rogers	78,701	38,563	48%
TOTAL	163,207	66,030	40%

Current Annual Water Funding Agency Percentages

The Current Annual Funding Pot Total is \$36.45 Million for SWVA



Sewer Funding Competes with Water Funding



DEQ is the only sole sewer funding – 100% Loan



- **High Demand for DEQ Funding due to Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Issues**
- **DEQ Loan Terms Currently 1-3% Interest for 20 Years**
- **DEQ Loans Should be Extended to 30 Years and Allow 0% Interest**

Southwest Virginia Regional Wastewater Study

- **Identified \$321,255,794 in immediate sewer funding needs for the region (centralized & decentralized)**
- **Would provide over 50,000 total residents or 16,500 households with public sewer in PDCs 1, 2, and 3**

7.26.1999

Recommendations

- **Work to gain Full Appropriation to the \$20 Million Authorized under the Water and Wastewater Resources Development Act for PDCs 1 and 2.**
- **Governor and General Assembly continue to provide Planning Money for PERs, Plans and Specs, Environmental Reviews, and other “Up-Front” Costs so that Projects “Are Ready to Go” for Funding Applications**
- **Governor and General Assembly Increase the Amount of the Southwest Virginia Regional Water and Wastewater Construction Fund**

Recommendations

- **Begin Implementing the 3 E's (Education, Enforcement, and Enticement)**
- **Discharge of Raw Sewage or Improperly Treated Wastewater should be a Civil Offense rather than a Criminal Offense. Would allow VDH to Enforce the Law more Efficiently and Effectively**
- **Increase the Fine for Discharging a Higher Dollar Amount than the Cost of the "Hook-Up" Fee**
- **Encourage "Mandatory Hook-Up" or "Availability Fees"**