

## PRIVATE PROPERTY PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

The WEF Collection System Committee is primarily interested in successfully operating programs for work performed on the privately-owned portion of the lateral line; e.g., building service connection. We want to assemble policy descriptions, enabling resolutions or ordinances, funding details, public education/information materials, standard design or construction details, etc., for programs that have proven to be successful. This specific program documentation will be made available to other wastewater utilities through a virtual private property program on-line library.

While we are interested in "planned" programs, we want to first concentrate on programs that have been demonstrated to have been effectively implemented. Planned programs will be included in the virtual library after the program has been implemented and actual experience with the program is available.

Program descriptions of private lateral programs that were previously implemented, but considered "failed" or only "partially successful" will be included if the reasons for the problems with the program have been identified and can be included as a "lessons learned" component of the virtual library.

**Interview Conducted by WEF Representative:** Name: George Martin  
Date: September 10, 2007

### 1. General Information

Utility Name & Location: Greenwood Metropolitan District Greenwood, South Carolina

Contact Name & Details: George Martin  
Assistant Manager  
(864) 943-8004

Utility Characteristics: 50,000 Number of Customers  
14,900 Number of Taps  
367 Total Miles of Public Sanitary Sewers (separated sewers and combined sewers)  
0 Miles of Public Combined Sewers (sanitary only, not including storm sewers)  
(estimate % of system that is combined if total miles is unavailable or unknown)  
No Are basements (thus potentially sump pump connections) typical in your area?  
(indicate yes or no)  
SPD Utility Type (municipal government, **special purpose district**, private utility, etc.)

### 2. Lateral Definition

Private Lateral Definition: Building to ROW/Easement Line Only  
(check definition that applies)

(Note if (& how) utility treats laterals in easements differently than laterals in ROWs)

X Building To Tap on Sewer Main Line

       Other (Specify details) \_\_\_\_\_

(Note if (& how) utility treats residential building laterals differently than commercial building laterals – this may affect responses to subsequent questions)

Cleanouts:  
(check all that apply) Required Usually  
Exists

X At building

       At ROW \_\_\_\_\_

X At easement

### **3. Lateral Program Description**

Type of Lateral Program (check all that apply and describe program – try to be brief in program description, but add separate sheets as needed). If utility operates more than one private lateral program, it may be preferable to complete a separate questionnaire form for the remaining questions for each of those private lateral programs.

Lateral Maintenance (e.g., cleaning, root control, etc.):

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Lateral Repair (e.g., point repairs, etc.):

If structural damage is proven to GMD under a paved area that is publicly owned, GMD will repair lateral.

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Lateral Replacement:

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I/I Control (Specify type; e.g., cleanout caps, sump pump disconnect, downspout/yard drain disconnect, backflow preventer installation, etc. If basements are typical in area, where are building owners directed to connect the foundation or tile drain lines that have to be disconnected?):

When smoke testing GMD identifies deficiencies and notifies property owners of necessary repairs.

GMD identifies areas where backflow preventers need to be installed according to GMD Design Manual. The lowest floor level must be twelve inches higher than the next upstream manhole. When GMD undertakes comprehensive rehabilitation, laterals are rehabilitated using trenchless technology or replaced to the edge of the easement including the installation of a clean out.

Lateral Reconnects (Specify conditions; e.g., when utility relocates main, etc. Specify special situations; e.g., sewers under building(s) requiring building plumbing changes or extensive lateral relocation):

GMD relocates sewer mains and laterals when located under buildings or homes on a case by case basis.

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Lateral Inspections (Specify conditions; e.g., point of sale, special utility project, etc.):

GMD only inspects the tap to the main sewer line. Greenwood City/County inspectors inspect the lateral to the point of connection.

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New Connection Permitting (e.g., special coordination with Building Codes, etc.):

Lateral connection permits are handled by Greenwood City/County.

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New Connection Enforcement Mechanisms:

GMD has enforcement authority concerning the tap/connection to the main sewer line.

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#### **4. Lateral Program Implementation**

Implementation Date: June 2007 Why implemented? For political reasons  
(e.g., consent order/decrees, reduce CSOs/SSOs, obtain capacity to alleviate sewer moratorium, more cost-effective than “old” program, etc.)

Ongoing Program? \_\_\_\_\_ Or End Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Why Ended? \_\_\_\_\_

GMD entered into an agreement with Greenwood City/County that their inspectors (City/County) would inspect all sewer laterals to the main. The latest edition of the International Plumbing Code will be the accepted specifications for lateral installment.

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What Legal Authority was Required to Implement the Lateral Program? \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution  
(check all that apply, inquire if electronic copy is available for virtual library; inquire if utility type [i.e., municipality vs. district] affects the necessary legal authority)

\_\_\_\_\_ Ordinance

\_\_\_\_\_ State Enabling Legislation

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

NA

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## **5. Lateral Program Funding**

Who Pays:       Utility       Property Owner       Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(other could include grants, loans, low & moderate income programs, block development grants, etc.; inquire if electronic copy is available for virtual library)

Funding Description:      GMD has received a limited amount of Community Development Block Grants for low to moderate income properties. GMD's contractor installs the lateral when CDBG Grants are used.

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## **6. Program Construction**

Who Does the Work:       Utility Internal Forces       Utility Selects & Pays Contractor  
                               Property Owner       Property Owner But Only From Utility List  
                               Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Description: Must meet the standards of the latest International Plumbing Code.

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Construction Details: Are standard details/specifications used? Yes      Are electronic copies available? Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Describe/List Details: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **7. Public Education/Information Program**

How is Lateral Program Publicized?       Door hangers      Are electronic copies available? \_\_\_\_\_  
     Bill stuffers      Are electronic copies available? \_\_\_\_\_  
     Meetings      Are electronic copies available? \_\_\_\_\_  
     Brochures      Are electronic copies available? \_\_\_\_\_  
     Customer Specific      Are electronic copies available? Yes  
(e.g., provide property owner with CCTV still shot of lateral interior, field mark/locate [flag or cone] problem, provide picture of field location in case flag or cone is removed, etc.)  
     Other (Specify)      Are electronic copies available? \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Description of Material(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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## **8. Lessons Learned**

What Would You Do Differently? GMD initiated a very stringent set of specification for the construction and replacement of lateral lines. Due to political pressures, GMD entered into an agreement with Greenwood City/County that they would be responsible for inspection of all laterals. Laterals are part of the sewer system and should meet the design requirements of the sewer authority. This is a technical issue not a political issue.

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What Performance Measures Are/Were Used? Reduction of political pressures (e.g., plant flow reduction, CSO/SSC reduction, basement backup reduction, service call (roots, etc.,) reduction, sewer moratorium lifted, etc.,) Describe results of Lateral Program on those performance measures:

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Lessons Learned: See above comments.

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## **9. Follow-Up Electronic Submittal**

Willing to Send Electronic Materials to WEF Collection System Committee for Inclusion in Virtual Library? Yes  
(list all items utility agrees to send below should future follow-up reminders be needed)

Is utility willing to provide a contact (e.g., either web site address, telephone number or email address [preferably not a name due to possible privacy concerns] for inclusion in the WEF Private Lateral Virtual Library)?  
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WEF Tracking List of Materials: Copies of construction details

Photographs of smoke test.

CDBG Grant information

International Plumbing Code

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