

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lawrence and Members of the Town Council
FROM: Scott E. Hildebran, Town Manager
SUBJECT: NCWaterWARN Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement
DATE: July 13, 2010

Enclosed please find a N.C. Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement for your consideration.

The N.C. Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (NCWaterWARN) is a supplementary form of mutual aid agreement, but focused specifically on water and wastewater utilities. Participation in NCWaterWARN allows a municipality to request rapid, short-term emergency assistance to restore critical operations to an affected utility.

Features of NCWaterWARN include –

- The agreement supplements existing mutual aid agreements.
- Unlike most mutual aid agreements, NCWaterWARN does not require state or federal declarations to be activated.
- The agreement does not obligate members to do anything. Members are not required to provide assistance.
- Membership does provide access to possible assistance statewide whenever the member needs help. It's an additional source of help (and hope) for all utilities (public and private).
- Promoting mutual aid/assistance meets FY06 Department of Homeland Security requirements. In order to be eligible for federal reimbursement, assistance provided through mutual aid agreements requires that the agreements be established prior to the event or emergency.
- The planning and coordination resulting from membership will ensure that members are better prepared than they are today.

Attached please find a one-page fact sheet regarding NCWaterWARN for your information.

In addition, the Town participates in a statewide mutual aid agreement that coordinates the allocation of resources between NC communities during emergencies. The statewide agreement outlines consistent procedures and policies regarding the delivery of local mutual aid. The agreement also provides efficient and effective assistance among governments, faster reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and covers liability and insurance concerns. This document was last updated with the State in April 2009.