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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Western Carolina Wastewater Treatment Plants Receive National Performance Awards**

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority is proud to announce that eleven of its wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) received Peak Performance Awards from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) at the Association's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. NACWA's Executive Director, Ken Kirk, called Western Carolina "an outstanding example of environmental efforts."

NACWA presented the prestigious Gold Peak Performance Award to the Georges Creek, Grove Creek, Piedmont, Lower Reedy, Durbin Creek, Gilder Creek, Pelham, Mauldin Road and Idlewild WWTP's to recognize their 100% compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements in 2005.

NACWA's Silver Peak Performance Awards were presented to the Marietta and Taylors WWTP's for their outstanding compliance records in 2005. The Silver Peak Performance Awards recognize the achievement of member agencies in having no more than five NPDES permit violations within the year.

NACWA has presented the Peak Performance Awards annually since 1987 to recognize achievement by member agencies in meeting NPDES permit requirements. Western Carolina achieved an extraordinary 99.96% compliance in 2005.

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority celebrates 75 years of environmental stewardship. The organization provides wastewater treatment services to over 400,000 industrial, commercial and residential customers in Greenville County and parts of Anderson, Spartanburg and Laurens Counties. Western Carolina operates and maintains 300 miles of major sewer trunk lines and 11 major wastewater treatment facilities.

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