

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE GREENVILLE WATER SYSTEM'S APPLICATION FOR A SURFACE WATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT.

WHEREAS, the Greenville Water System (hereinafter "Greenville Water") supplies drinking water to over 450,000 citizens of Greenville, Laurens, Pickens, and Anderson Counties, including providing drinking water to 13 neighboring water utilities;

WHEREAS, Greenville Water provides water to hundreds of commercial and industrial customers for utilization in business and manufacturing needs in the area;

WHEREAS, Greenville Water has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in infrastructure development and maintenance of its system;

WHEREAS, in order to serve all its customers, Greenville Water relies on its own reservoirs in the Saluda River Basin as well as Lake Keowee in the Savannah River Basin for water resources, and has done so since 1985;

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure the reliable provision of safe drinking water to the communities it serves and to ensure an adequate water supply for future economic growth and development, Greenville Water submitted an application to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for a surface water withdrawal permit that would allow Greenville Water to continue to rely on its reservoirs and Lake Keowee as its sources of raw water supplies;

WHEREAS, Greenville Water is acting responsibly in seeking to protect its investment in the infrastructure needs of the region and in implementing responsible, proactive planning for future needs of the citizens in the area through its application of a surface water withdrawal permit from DHEC;

WHEREAS, the immediate processing of the permit application and subsequent issuance of a surface water withdrawal permit will protect not only Greenville Water's infrastructure investment and quality of life of the citizens, but will also protect the natural resources;

WHEREAS, Greenville County Council understands that DHEC has refused to process the surface water withdrawal permit application, stating its intent not to process the application until 2016; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect the water supply today and in the future for the residents and businesses in Greenville, Laurens, Anderson, and Pickens Counties, Greenville Water has initiated litigation to require DHEC to process the permit application immediately for the benefit of those residents and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Council believes it is in the best interests of the environment and the residents and businesses of Greenville County and its neighboring counties to immediately process Greenville Water's permit application;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Council fully and unequivocally supports the immediate processing of the application of Greenville Water for a surface water withdrawal permit, as well as Greenville Water's current legal action to require DHEC to issue a surface water withdrawal permit to Greenville Water; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Chairman of the DHEC Board, the Commissioner of DHEC, and the legislative delegations of Greenville, Anderson, Pickens, and Laurens Counties.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2012.

Herman G. Kirven, Jr. Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk of Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator