

LOWCOUNTRY AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Amendment 5

Establishment of Objective 5 in Chapter 5, Water Quality Policies

Add the following text:

Objective (5): Support local governments' comprehensive planning efforts.

Strategy The State of South Carolina has mandated that all counties and municipalities having ordinances which affect land use develop a comprehensive plan. Efforts should be taken to ensure that the *Lowcountry Areawide Water Quality Management Plan* is not in conflict with the policies in the comprehensive plans adopted by member governments.

Policy 5.1 LCOG will undertake to closely coordinate Plan conformance certification activities with growth management strategies provided in comprehensive plans adopted by member governments and will define this process in Chapter 6, Administrative Procedures.

Policy 5.2 Participation in this process is limited to those governmental units with comprehensive plans developed in compliance with the *Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994* and fully approved by their presiding Council. Participation will also be on a strictly voluntary basis with a written request for participation submitted to the LCOG Board of Directors.

Policy 5.3 If a *sewer* project is located within an area that a local government has determined will not be served by wastewater and this determination is described by an adopted comprehensive plan and supporting ordinances, *the sewer project shall be determined to be not in conformance with the Lowcountry Areawide Water Quality Management Plan. A septic system located in the same area will be considered to be in conformance with the Lowcountry Areawide Water Quality Management Plan.*

Policy 5.4 Once any area has been annexed into another jurisdiction, the rules applying to this area will be those of the jurisdiction into which the area has annexed. Any determination of appropriateness for wastewater treatment systems will be the responsibility of the receiving management agency alone.

Establishment of Comprehensive Plan Conformance Review in *Chapter 6, Administrative Procedures*

Add the following text:

***Comprehensive Plan
Conformance Review***

After approval is granted by the LCOG Board of Directors for participation in the Comprehensive Plan Conformance Review process, the member government shall submit to LCOG a full copy of the approved comprehensive plan, a detailed map depicting those areas in which sewer service is allowed and those areas in which sewer service is not considered appropriate, and the name of a designated contact for conformance questions. When each request for conformance in that government's jurisdiction arrives at LCOG, the project will be located on the map to determine appropriateness. If the project is within the "allowed" area, the conformance process will continue normally. If the project lies within or near the area determined to be "dis-allowed", the project will be referred to the designated point of contact and a letter sent to SCDHEC requesting a delay. The point of contact will have three working days to respond to the initial referral. If the project is determined to be located within an area that the local government has determined will not be served by wastewater as described by an adopted comprehensive plan and supporting ordinances, it shall be determined to be not in conformance with the *Lowcountry Areawide Water Quality Management Plan*.