



To: National Association of Clean Water Agencies Members and Affiliates
Water Environment Research Foundation Subscribers

From: NACWA and WERF National Offices

Date: February 9, 2006

RE: NACWA/WERF HANDBOOK ON USE ATTAINABILITY ANALYSES

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) and the Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) are pleased to provide you with the enclosed complimentary copy of a new handbook on use attainability analyses (UAA). This *Handbook* will provide wastewater utilities with a practical roadmap to the UAA process.

Collaborative Water Quality Solutions: Exploring Use Attainability Analyses is the culmination of more than a year's worth of effort by NACWA and WERF, their contractors, and volunteer Project Oversight Committee members. It builds on previous work by both NACWA and WERF on UAAs.

The *Handbook* will help utilities decide whether or not to consider sponsoring or participating in a UAA or if another approach, such as a variance, might be a better option. It contains pointers and case studies from real-world experiences that will help readers better apply the concepts to their specific situations. And it will guide utilities through the stakeholder involvement process. In fact, an entire chapter of the *Handbook* is dedicated to stakeholder involvement since knowledge and understanding of those stakeholders are critical before beginning the UAA process.

The *Handbook* covers several other important topics as well, including the timing and integration of a UAA with other regulatory programs, such as efforts under the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy and the total maximum daily load program. Other chapters are dedicated to discussing UAAs for aquatic life uses and uses related to human health, and an entire chapter is dedicated to economic considerations, which can often be the driving force for a UAA.

The *Handbook* also includes a CD with an electronic version of WERF's 1997 *Comprehensive Use Attainability Analysis Technical Reference*. Readers of the *Handbook* will be able to call upon this important resource for even more information on the UAA process.

NACWA and WERF would like to extend special thanks to the volunteer members of the Project Oversight Committee:

Barbara Biggs, *Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Colorado*
Betsy Cooper, *King County Department of Natural Resources, Washington*
David Kubiak, *Massachusetts Water Resources Authority*
Heather Lamberson, *Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, California*
Norm LeBlanc, *Hampton Roads Sanitation District, Virginia*
Keith Linn, *Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Ohio*
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Andrea Rex, *Massachusetts Water Resources Authority*
Clyde Wilber, *Greeley and Hansen, Maryland*

NACWA and WERF would also like to thank their contractor team on this effort including, CH2M Hill, led by Tom Dupuis; Risk Sciences, led by Tim Moore; and Foster Pepper & Shefelman, led by Lori Terry.

Additional copies of the *Collaborative Water Quality Solutions: Exploring Use Attainability Analyses* can be purchased through the NACWA (www.nacwa.org/publications) or WERF (www.werf.org) websites.

ENCLOSURE