

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009

RIVANNA WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY GOVERNOR KAINE TO SPEAK AT GROUNDBREAKING FOR WASTEWATER PLANT CONSTRUCTION

Charlottesville, VA (Thursday, May 21, 2009) –The Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority (Authority) announced today that Governor Timothy M. Kaine will be the special guest speaker at a groundbreaking ceremony at 1:00 p. m. next Wednesday for the construction of new facilities at the Moores Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Governor’s remarks will highlight this invitation-only event to kick-off a major \$40.3 million construction project benefitting local and state water quality.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is providing \$21.57 million toward the project in grants and has approved up to an additional \$20 million in below-market rate loans. The financing can be applied toward engineering and other professional services costs as well as the construction cost. The total project budget including professional services and contingency is approximately \$50 million.

The project provides considerable environmental “green” benefits to both the local community and the Commonwealth. A highlight of the project will be the addition of high technology nutrient treatment facilities to significantly remove nitrogen and phosphorus from the wastewater, enhancing water quality along a path from the scenic Rivanna River near Woolen Mills to the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. The project will also provide for the co-generation of renewable energy through steam and electricity from biogas formed in the digestion of biosolids. The steam will heat the digestion process which catalyzes the production of more biogas, and the electricity will reduce the extent of purchased power required for the wastewater treatment processes. The co-generation project is estimated to reduce the “carbon footprint” of the treatment of human waste at the facility by a significant 40%.

The project further provides for the essential rehabilitation of aging infrastructure at the facility and provides odor control facilities that give operating staff better tools to minimize public nuisances from the inherent nature of the business.

“This project results from significant planning on many fronts”, stated Mr. Tom Frederick, Executive Director of the Authority. “It will result in cleaner water and air as well as more efficient energy utilization – all adding to the ‘greening’ of our community. The project may seem very large in size, but we actually produce a more efficient result for the ratepayers by combining many objectives and needs into this single project. We are very grateful to the

Commonwealth of Virginia for their support, and our staff is extremely proud to have Governor Timothy M. Kaine accept our invitation to attend.”

Joining the Governor in breaking ground will be Mr. Mike Gaffney, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority, Mr. Ron Taylor for Hazen and Sawyer who led the engineering design of the project, and Mr. Michael Adams of Adams Robinson General Mechanical Contractors who will be constructing the project.

Representatives of each of the local news media from television, radio, and print are invited to attend, but the Authority requests that each organization contact Ms. Mary Knowles at 977-2970, Extension 101 by 5:00 pm Tuesday, May 26 in order to be assured of inclusion on the invitation list.

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