

News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)

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Ranking Member, Committee on the Budget

US House of Representatives – Washington, DC

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Spratt, Hollings Obtain \$1.2 million for Lando Wastewater Improvements

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt today announced that he and Senator Hollings had obtained \$1.2 million requested by the Chester Sewer District for an upgrade to the Lando Wastewater Treatment Plant. The funds were included in the omnibus spending bill approved by Congress on November 20.

The Lando Wastewater Treatment Plant is owned and operated by the Chester Sewer District, and serves the rural northeastern sector of Chester County. The Lando plant was constructed in the early 1970s and last upgraded in 1989 to its current capacity of 500,000 gallons per day. The treated effluent from the plant is discharged into Fishing Creek, a tributary of the Catawba River. The treatment plant serves an area of Chester County undergoing rapid residential and industrial growth.

“Chester County has a number of industrial users of water and sewer service, some with projects on hold, waiting on this expansion of capacity. The Lando plant cannot meet their needs or pursue other industrial prospects without an upgrade. Jobs and development in all of Chester County would be limited without this expansion,” Spratt said.

“Chester County needs industrial development,” Spratt said. “Since December 2000, the county has suffered over 1,000 job losses as a result of plant closings and downsizing. Unemployment in the county has been running in double digits. Given Chester County’s location between Charlotte and Columbia on Interstate 77, this area is ripe for development, but development depends on infrastructure.”

Spratt said the estimated cost of upgrading the wastewater treatment plant is \$2.1 million, a good part of which Chester Sewer District expects to provide. The Chester Sewer District operates three wastewater treatment plants, maintains 150 miles of collection line and 13 pump stations, but services a customer base of only 4,688. The Sewer District cannot afford to acquire any substantial debt if its rates are to remain competitive.

“This project is about jobs and development in Chester County,” said Spratt, “and I am proud to have had a hand in making it happen.”

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