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Associations Release Core Attributes of Effectively Managed Wastewater Collection Systems

Alexandria, Va. - Four associations representing the Nation's wastewater treatment, public works, and civil engineering sectors have released the *Core Attributes of Effectively Managed Wastewater Collection Systems*, a new document that promotes good engineering practices essential to managing and operating separate sanitary collection systems.

As a critical element of wastewater infrastructure, collection systems must be effectively maintained and managed to minimize potential impacts on the water environment. Part of this management includes the control of sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and the prevention of discharges into receiving waters in accordance with the Clean Water Act. Complicating these management efforts is the absence of clear federal guidelines on how to best manage separate sanitary collection systems and minimize overflows.

To address this lack of guidance, the four associations—the American Public Works Association (APWA), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), and the Water Environment Federation (WEF) — worked together to produce the first nationally recognized set of practices and core attributes for effectively managed wastewater collection systems.

NACWA's Executive Director, Ken Kirk, called the Core Attributes “a significant step towards a consistent national framework for the management of separate sanitary collection systems and a critical element of any future federal rule or guidance to address sanitary sewer issues holistically.”

The associations engaged a broad group of industry stakeholders to help identify the core issues and best management practices that make up the attributes. The resulting document is now available for download at www.wef.org/coreattributesofWWCS/, as well as from the websites for each of the partner organizations. In addition, the core

attributes identified in the document are included by reference in WEF's recently issued position statement, [*Management of Wet Weather Flows by Municipal Utilities*](#).

For more information about the collaborating organizations, visit: APWA at www.apwa.net; ASCE at www.asce.org; NACWA at www.nacwa.org; and WEF at www.wef.org.

About APWA

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is an international educational and professional association of public agencies, private sector companies, and individuals dedicated to providing high quality public works goods and services. Please visit <http://www.apwa.net> for additional information.

About ASCE

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) represents more than 144,000 members of the civil engineering profession worldwide and is America's oldest national engineering society.

About NACWA

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) represents the interests of more than 300 public agencies and organizations that have made the pursuit of scientifically based, technically sound and cost-effective laws and regulations their objective. NACWA members serve the majority of the sewered population in the United States and collectively treat and reclaim more than 18 billion gallons of wastewater daily.

About WEF

Formed in 1928, the Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization with 36,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. WEF and its Member Associations proudly work to achieve our mission of preserving and enhancing the global water environment.

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