

## J. FLETCHER CREAMER & SON, INC.

CONTRACTORS

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December 30, 2010

Board of Public Utilities Attn: Ms. Kristi Izzo, Secretary of the Board Two Gateway Center, Suite 801 Newark, NJ 07102

Re: DSIC Comments - Docket No. WO10090656

Dear Ms. Izzo,

J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc. is a nationally ranked infrastructure contractor headquartered out of Hackensack, New Jersey with a majority of our revenue generated in the State of New Jersey. JFC employs over 1,000 people and maintains three offices in New Jersey: Hackensack, Linden, and Folsom. We perform work for New Jersey American Water Company, United Water Company, Middlesex Water Company, Aqua New Jersey and many municipal agencies.

We support the DSIC program as we have firsthand knowledge of the failing infrastructure within water distribution systems. We are often called out on emergency water main breaks and know how that affects the ratepayer not only from a cost perspective but from a safety perspective. We have seen water breaks that have created situations where we have lost not only service to the homeowner but also has caused other facilities to be affected from gas mains to communication facilities, not to mention the roadways that need to be reconstructed including curbs to drainage. A DSIC program allows the water companies to create sustainable program that can improve water quality, improve fire protection, create steady improvements to the distribution system which in turn creates steady employment and maintains trained crews doing quality work for a reliable system. As with any process the more continuity maintained doing a task the better the employee does their job and the process

improves offering a better return on that task, from safety, quality, reliability, and production.

In these tough economic times this program will stimulate employment and maintain employment continuity instead of the highs and lows we currently are challenged with. The reduction of emergency work and the growth of planned work is a benefit that the ratepayer will appreciate not only in their wallet but from a reliable water system. A financial program that allows the water companies to plan their work with the proper funding allows all companies in the supply chain from the asphalt supplier, the municipality, the engineers, the contractors, the pipe suppliers, and many others to organize and plan their work.

All these water companies continue to challenge themselves and their contractors to provide other solutions to improve their water systems. They are constantly doing research and development on new technologies that are less costly, less disruptive to the homeowner and the community, while improving the water mains and services in their networks. Some of the technologies we have provided are cleaning and cement mortar lining of cast iron mains, internal and external joint sealing, cured in place structural liners, slip lining and/or pipe bursting with high density polyethylene or fusible PVC pipe, directional drilling across sensitive areas, and other new trenchless technologies.

The DSIC program supports your mission, "To ensure the provision of safe, adequate and proper utility and regulated service at reasonable rates, while enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of New Jersey and performing these public duties with integrity, responsiveness and efficiency."

Very truly yours,

J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc.

Soupl T. Walsh/BAF

Joseph T. Walsh

President

JTW/baf