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Mr. John F. Damico President Environmental Rate Consultants, Inc. 2113 Greenbriar Place Union, Kentucky 41091 September 15, 2000

RE: REGIONAL STORM WATER UTILITY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION UNDER OHIO REVISED CODE 6119

To Whom This May Concern:

The Maumee River Regional Storm Water Coalition (MRRSWC) performed an exhaustive search for Nationally recognized Storm Water Utility program experts to assist the MRRSWC in creating and implementing the first Regional Storm Water Utility program in the State of Ohio. After extensive research, it was an overwhelming choice to select the ERC TEAM, which is comprised of Environmental Rate Consultants, Inc. (ERC), and Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott and May Engineers, Inc. (FMSM) for assistance.

Over the past six months the ERC TEAM has begun facilitating and building the foundation for reaching consensus with the 30-community Coalition membership steering committee. At times, this process has proven to be very controversial but the ERC TEAM has convinced many of the coalition members to consider joining this Regional Storm Water Utility program.

The specific tasks the ERC TEAM has guided the MRRSWC through is as follows:

- Develop a set of Regional Standards;
- Develop a consistent set of Master Planning guidelines;
- Develop a strategy to address the NPDES Phase II regulations;
- Develop a funding plan consistent with the final organizational structure; and
- Develop an extensive public involvement program.

The Regional Storm Water Utility program development will take about two years to complete. It is very clear to all of the MRRSWC membership that without the assistance from the ERC TEAM facilitating and achieving consensus and input from our large steering committee, we feel we will not be successful in our endeavor. The ERC TEAM has been outstanding in all aspects of this extremely vital project.

I will provide any further reference information regarding the ERC Team's expertise in developing Storm Water programs that you may require. I am looking forward to continued work with the ERC TEAM.

Sincerely,

Peter Gerken TMACOG

MRRSWC chairman

City of Toledo Councilman

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