



STATEMENT FROM RENEWABLE WATER RESOURCES:

Sewer services in Northern Greenville County

This week, Renewable Water Resources was disappointed to discover that a totally false, politically motivated rumor has been manufactured and circulated on social media and through an online petition. Unfortunately, this misinformation campaign has generated undue concern and anxiety for a number of community members in the northern portion of Greenville County, and ReWa is setting the record straight.

- ReWa is not constructing a large consolidated wastewater treatment facility along Highway 414 in the Tigerville area near North Greenville University.
- There are no current plans, discussions or attempts to fund or invest in additional sewer capacity beyond what is needed for the current service area.
- Responsible basin planning, as required of permitted regional sewer authorities, does, however, mandate that we prepare for a variety of future county planning and population growth scenarios.
- Any information shared through social media and an online petition regarding ReWa's plans for this portion of our service area is totally made up and has absolutely no basis in fact.

Here are the actual facts:

- ReWa owns and operates a small sewer treatment facility that currently resides within the campus footprint of the university.
- This existing treatment plant provides service for the University and homes in the immediate area.
- ReWa assumed responsibility for managing the system in 2016 due to failing infrastructure and ongoing environmental concerns that ReWa was willing and able to address.
- ReWa is currently in the process of assessing the long-term viability of the existing plant, which has a total capacity of receiving and treating approximately 200,000 gallons of wastewater per day.
- This period of due diligence allows our team of experts to research the best options for ensuring consistency and quality for the customers who have relied on these sewer services.
- One option under consideration is the major rehabilitation of the existing facility that remains on the university campus.
- Another option is the construction of a new off-campus facility that would preserve the existing capacity and provide our neighbors and customers the same level of service, but in an isolated location.
- As this assessment moves forward, ReWa continues to make investments to ensure the health and safety of the area we serve and the people who live



there—and that extends to ensuring that the existing quality of life they enjoy in this more rural area is also protected.

- The focused study on ensuring the best options are considered is done with these twin goals in mind: Keeping people and land safe, and providing our neighbors and customers with the service they need with the least amount of disruptions from normal sewer operations.
- A 50-acre tract of land, with an additional 20 acres adjoining that tract under consideration, was purchased by ReWa for the potential siting of a new facility to replace the existing facility, but with an added purpose: to provide a natural “buffer zone” around the facility, which, if constructed, would encompass no more than three to five acres.
- The remaining 65-plus acres would limit the public’s interaction with the plant itself and provide opportunities for ReWa to pilot new and innovative odor-control strategies, as well as prevent the need for seeking easements and rights-of-way to access the property.
- This land would also be preserved for its natural beauty and existing wildlife habitat to ensure that the character and quality of the property would remain safe and protected for years to come.
- The acreage will never be open to development as long as ReWa’s ratepayers own it.

As one of the nation’s leading wastewater service providers, ReWa is committed to ensuring the health and safety of the 500,000 people we serve, in addition to protecting the natural environment that makes our region such a great place to live, work and raise a family.

This approach to safe and reliable sewer services is both mission-driven, and personal: our award-winning team is dedicated to making the right decisions and upholding high standards for receiving and cleaning wastewater because, quite simply, we live here, too.

As we all begin to celebrate the holidays—especially during the uncertainty and distance required by a pandemic—we are reminded that our corporate responsibility is not only a call to action to protect our land and its people, it is our promise to each and every person who calls this area home.

Although we are disappointed that some in our region would seek to create and distribute totally false information that attempts to distort and compromise ReWa’s mission-driven commitment to our customers and our community (and that commitment still includes a promise to protect the health and safety of those who are distorting the truth for political reasons), ReWa is encouraged by the support from those who partner with us to do our very best.



This Thanksgiving, ReWa is thankful for many things: Our community, our partners, our dedicated employees, our precious land, our shared quality of life and, without a doubt, our clean water. That takes a commitment from all of us. ReWa offers sincere thanks and gratitude for your support, and your commitment to quality, collaboration and community spirit.

No matter what, ReWa is committed to fulfilling our responsibility, our mission and our promise to this community.

And that is the absolute truth.

—###—