



PRESS RELEASE

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Security upgrades provide increased protection to Charleston's water supply

(September 7, 2006)—A new perimeter fence and sensory equipment are among the security improvements designed to protect Charleston Water System's Hanahan Water Treatment Plant—the source of drinking water for more than 400,000 people in the greater Charleston area—from acts of sabotage or vandalism.

The improvements were recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) following 9/11. All water utilities were required to submit a vulnerability report to the US EPA listing potential vulnerabilities. That report formed the basis of the security improvements, which cost approximately \$2 million and were funded by Charleston Water System's 2003 revenue bond issue.

"Protecting our water supplies, treatment facilities, and other key infrastructure is one of our highest priorities," said Interim CEO Kin Hill, P.E. "We have to be prepared and remain vigilant, and we are confident that the security improvements that are now in place thanks to our contractor, Broadband, will help us do just that."

Broadband Network Services, a Charleston-based minority business enterprise (MBE) specializing in high-tech security systems, completed the project and also provided security and monitoring enhancements at the Plum Island Wastewater Treatment Plant, Operations Center, and administrative offices. "As a Charleston-based MBE firm, we were delighted to perform these important security improvements for Charleston Water System," said Fred Anthony, President and CEO of The Broadband Companies. "This project has given us an opportunity to showcase our firm's ability in this ever-evolving high-technology field."

For security reasons, Charleston Water System is not releasing specific details on the features of the new security systems.

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For more information about The Broadband Companies please contact Fred Anthony, CEO, at (843) 722-6813 or fa5099@aol.com