



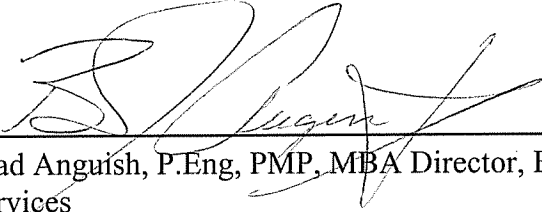
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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**December 13, 2005**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
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Brad Anguish, P.Eng, PMP, MBA Director, Environmental Management  
Services

**DATE:** December 5, 2005

**SUBJECT:** HRM Wastewater Rate Update

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### **INFORMATION REPORT**

#### **ORIGIN**

This report was initiated by staff in order to place an HRM wastewater rate around the HRWC water rate increase application to the NSUARB as noted in the December 13, 2005 HRWC information report to Council.

## **BACKGROUND**

The water bill is composed of the following charges:

- Basic Water Charge
- Water Consumption Charges
- Administrative (“Other”) Charges such as late payment, connection fees, non-negotiable cheques, etc.
- Pollution Control Charges

The Pollution Control Charges support wastewater/stormwater infrastructure acquisition, operations and maintenance, and are comprised of the following components:

- Environmental Protection Charge which consists of two separate charges:
  - Halifax Harbour Solutions Project
  - Existing Infrastructure (stormwater & wastewater), and
- Wastewater Management Charge

At the February 1, 2005 session of COW a motion was “Put and Defeated” to increase the EPC rate by five cents (0.05) in support of existing stormwater/wastewater infrastructure capital maintenance, (Recommendation #2 of the January 25, 2005 COW report “Environmental Protection Charge (EPC) Rate Increase”).

The “25 Year Wastewater/Stormwater Forecast” presented at the January 25, 2005 COW estimated that existing wastewater/stormwater infrastructure will require approximately \$540 million (\$22M/year) investment over the next 25 years.

## **DISCUSSION**

HRM is currently developing its Pollution Control Charges recommendations with the knowledge of the proposed HRWC rate increases.

These recommendations will be brought forward as part of the 06/07 business planning & budgeting process.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

N/A

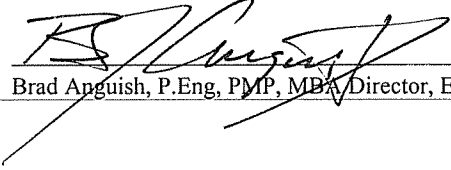
**ATTACHMENTS**

N/A

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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