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# AVOYELLES WATER COMMISSION

Marksville, Louisiana

Financial Report

Year Ended December 31, 2006

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 1/9/08

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# Roy K. Derbonne, JR.

Certified Public Accountant 1101-A Bolton Avenue Alexandria, Louisiana 71301-6878

Tel: 318-445-6778 Fax: 318-445-8967 Member Society of Louisiana CPA's

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners Avoyelles Water Commission Marksville, Louisiana

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities and major fund of Avoyelles Water Commission (the Commission), a component unit of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of Avoyelles Water Commission, as of December 31, 2006, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund type for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, I have also issued my report dated August 20, 2007, on my consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of my audit.

Avoyelles Water Commission has not presented management's discussion and analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements. The accompanying financial information listed as "Supplementary Information" in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of Avoyelles Water Commission. Such information has been

subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Certified Public Accountant

August 20, 2007

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AVOYELLES WATER COMMISSION

Marksville, Louisiana Proprietary Fund Type-Enterprise Fund Utility Fund

### Balance Sheet December 31, 2006

#### ASSETS

Current assets:	
Cash	\$ 3,006
Noncurrent assets:	
Restricted assets:	
Interest-bearing deposits	26,239
Prepaid land lease	29,394
Total noncurrent non-capital assets	55,633
Capital assets:	
Land ·	10,000
Right of ways	165,132
Construction in Process	11,630,113
Total capital assets	11,805,245
Total noncurrent assets	11,860,878
Total assets	\$11,863,884
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities - (payable from resticted assets)	
Contractors payable	\$ 222,448
Retainage payable	235,107
Accrued interest payable	258,605
Due to other governments	8,50 <u>9</u>
Total current liabilities - (payable from current assets)	724,669
Noncurrent liabilities -	
Note payable (net)	11,132,891
Total liabilities	11,857,560
Net assets (deficit):	
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	-
Unrestricted	6,324
Total net assets	6,324
Total liabilities and net assets	\$11,863,884

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

#### AVOYELLES WATER COMMISSION

# Marksville, Louisiana Proprietary Fund Type-Enterprise Fund Utility Fund

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended December 31, 2006

Operating Revenues	<u>\$ -</u>
Operating expenses:	
Bank charges	130
Lease	980
Insurance	4,541
Repairs	300
Utilities	534
Fees	264
Miscellaneous	246
Total operating expenses	6,995
Net operating loss	(6,995)
Nonoperating revenues:	
Interest income	2,883
Other income	2,003
Total nonoperating revenues	4,886
Change in net assets	(2,109)
Net assets, beginning	8,433
Net assets, ending	\$ 6,324

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

#### AVOYELLES WATER COMMISSION

### Marksville, Louisiana

### Proprietary Fund Type-Enterprise Fund Utility Fund

### Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended December 31, 2006

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Payments to vendors	(6,692)
Net cash flows used by operating activities	(6,692)
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Proceeds from interim construction loan	1,960,000
Loans from other governments	8,450
Payment of financing cost	(7,071)
Payment of principal on bonds	(9,362)
Interest paid on bonds	(191,756)
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(1,800,971)
Net cash flows used by capital and financing activities	(40,710)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Interest received on cash and investments	2,883
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(44,519)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	73,764
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 29,245
Supplemental Disclosure:	
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Net operating loss	\$ (6,995)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net	
cash used by operating activity:	
Amortization of land lease	303
Net cash used by operating activities	\$ (6,692)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

#### Notes to Financial Statements

#### (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting and reporting policies of Avoyelles Water Commission (the Commission) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the industry audit guide, <u>Audits of State and Local Governmental Units</u>. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Commission applies all applicable Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989 in accounting and reporting for its proprietary fund operations unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

#### A. Financial Reporting Entity

The Avoyelles Water Commission, which is a component unit of Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, was created under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:3811, for the purpose of providing potable drinking water to three municipalities. The Commission is governed by a board of directors composed of three members appointed by the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury. Each board of commissioner serves until he is replaced by the Police Jury. The commission is expected to begin operations in February 2007.

This report is comprised of a proprietary fund that is administered by the Commission's board of directors. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the proprietary fund maintained by the Commission and do not present information on the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury and the general governmental services provided by that governmental unit.

#### B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The statement of net assets and statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a business. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. Avoyelles Water Commission does not have governmental activities. Its operation is a business-type activity.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

#### C. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Commission are organized and operated on the basis of a fund. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The Commission maintains only one fund and it is described below:

Proprietary Fund -

Enterprise Fund

The Enterprise fund is used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

#### D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "which" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

#### Measurement Focus

The enterprise fund utilizes an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net assets (or cost recovery), financial position, and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net assets.

#### Basis of Accounting

The proprietary fund statements are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions."

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

#### E. <u>Assets, Liabilities and Equity</u>

Cash and interest-bearing deposits

Interest-bearing deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. All short-term investments that are highly liquid are considered to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, and at the date of purchase, they have a maturity date no longer than three months.

#### Investments

Under state law, the Commission may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union or the laws of the United States. The Commission may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, government backed agency securities, or certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. As of December 31, 2006 the Commission has no investments.

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets. They are reported at historical cost or estimated cost if historical is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Commission maintains a threshold level of \$1,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Depreciation of all exhaustible fixed assets used by the proprietary fund is charged as an expense against its operations. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Utility System and Improvements Furniture, fixtures and equipment 30-40 years 7-10 years

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Compensated Absences

The Commission has no set policy for accumulated vacation, sick pay or other benefits because the Commission has no employees. Therefore, no accruals for compensated absences have been made in these financial statements.

#### **Equity Classifications**

Equity is classified as net assets and displayed in three components:

- a. Invested in capital assets, net of related debt Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net assets Consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net assets All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

The Commission uses unrestricted assets only when restricted assets are fully depleted.

#### F. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses

#### Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues and expenses for proprietary funds are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. It also includes all revenue and expenses not related to capital and related financing, noncapital financing, or investing activities.

The commission follows the policy of capitalizing interest as a component of the cost of issuing bonds. For the year ended December 31, 2006, there was \$542,394 of interest charges capitalized on financing charges. Since the Commission is still constructing the system, there was no interest expense for the year 2006.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

#### G. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### (2) Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits

Under state law, the Commission may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the law of any other state in the Union, or the laws of the United States. The Commission may invest in certificates and time deposits of the state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At December 31, 2006, the Commission had cash and interest-bearing deposits (book balances) totaling \$29,245 in demand deposits.

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. The bank balances are categorized below to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Commission at December 31, 2006. Category 1 includes bank balances that are insured or collateralized with securities held by the entity or by its agent in the entity's name. Category 2 includes bank balances that are collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or by its trust department or agent in the entity's name. Category 3 includes bank balances that are collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or by its trust department or agent but not in the entity's name. Deposit balances (bank balances) totaling \$38,449 is secured by federal deposit insurance.

Even though pledged securities are considered uncollateralized (Category 3), Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the Commission that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

#### (3) Restricted Assets - Proprietary Fund Type

Restricted assets of \$26,239 consist of cash drawn down on the interim construction financing as of December 31, 2006.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

### (4) <u>Capital Assets</u>

A summary of changes in property, plant and equipment at December 31, follows:

	Balance 1/1/2006		Increases Decreases	
Land	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Right of ways	165,132			165,132
Total Land and Right of Ways	\$ 175,132	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 175,132
Construction in progress	\$ 9,217,791	\$ 2,412,322	<u>\$</u>	\$ 11 <u>,</u> 630,113

### (5) Other Liabilities

Due to other governments at December 31, 2006 consist of the following:

	<u>A</u> ;	Amount		
Avoyelles Ward Three Water	\$	1,518		
Village of Moreauville	\$	2,817		
City of Marksville		4,174		
Total	\$	8,509		

### (6) Changes in Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of debt transactions of the Commission for the year ended December 31, 2006:

	Notes Payable
Long-term debt payable at January 1, 2006	\$ 9,245,353
Long-term debt issued	1,960,000
Long-term debt retired	(9,362)
Long-term debt payable at December 31, 2006	<u>\$11,195,991</u>

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Notes payable at December 31, 2006 is composed of the following notes:

\$6,916,000 USDA note dated June 13, 2007, bearing interest at 4.250% per annum. Final maturity date, December 13, 2044. Upon completion of construction, note will be amoritized over thirty seven and half years.

\$ 6,909,558

\$5,876,000 USDA note dated June 20, 2007, bearing interest at 4.250% per annum. Final maturity date, June 20, 2044. The USDA has a loan commitment of \$5,876,000to the Avoyelles Water Commission. As of Dec. 31, 2006, the Commission borrowed \$4,289,353.

4,286,433

11,195,991

Less: unamortized bond issue cost

(63,100)

\$ 11,132,891

#### (8) Litigation

There is no litigation pending against the Avoyelles Water Commission at December 31, 2006.

#### (9) Risk Management

The Commission was not exposed to any risk because they were not in operation as of December 31, 2006. The independent contractors were required to carry insurance.

#### (10) Compensation of Board Members

Board members were not compensated during the year ended December 31, 2006.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

COMPLIANCE

AND

INTERNAL CONTROL

# Roy K. Derbonne, JR.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Commissioners Avoyelles Water Commission Marksville, Louisiana

I have audited the financial statements of Avoyelles Water Commission, (the Commission) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006, and have issued my report thereon dated August 20, 2007. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning performing my audit, I considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my audit procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

My consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that I consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>,

which is described in the accompanying summary schedule of current and prior year audit findings and corrective action plan as item as item 2006-1.

I noted a certain matter that I reported to management of Avoyelles Water Commission in a separate letter dated August 20, 2007.

Avoyelles Water Commission's response to the finding identified in my audit is described in the accompanying schedule of current and prior year audit findings. I did not audit Avoyelles Water Commission's response and, accordingly, I express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, others within the Commission, Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Also, under Louisiana Revised Statue 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Certified Public Accountant

Alexandria, Louisiana August 20, 2007

### Summary Schedule of Current and Prior Year Audit Findings and Corrective Action Plan Year Ended December 31, 2006

Current Year (12/31/06)

#### Compliance and Internal Control

	Fiscal Year					
	Finding		Corrective		Name of	Anticipated
	Initially		Action		Contact	Date of
Ref. No.	Occurred	Description of Finding	Taken	Corrective Action Plan	Person	Completion
2006-1	12/31/06	The Commission	Yes	The Board hired someone	Joan	12/31/07
		violated LSA-RS 24:513		to perform bookkeeping	Decuir	
		which states that the		functions to help the		
		entity must submit		secretary-treasurer to		
		audited financial		insure the financial		
		statements within six		statements will be pre-		
		months of the entities		pared and audited by		
		year end.		June 30.		

Prior Year (12/31/05)

Compliance and Internal Control

There are no findings that are required to be reported.

# Roy K. Derbonne, JR.

#### Certified Public Accountant 1101-A Bolton Avenue Alexandria, Louisiana 71301-6878

Tel: 318-445-6778 Fax: 318-445-8967 Member Society of Louisiana C.P.A.'s

August 20, 2007

Ms. Joan Decuir And the Board of Commissioners Avoyelles Water Commission Marksville, Louisiana

Ms. Decuir:

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of the Avoyelles Water Commission as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, I considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing my audit procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Commission's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will no be prevented or detected by the Commission's internal control.

A material weakness is significant deficiency, or a combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Commission's internal control.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I considered to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

However, as part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws,

regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

The other matter is as follows:

The Commission violated LSA-RS 24:513, which states that the entity must submit audited financial statements within six months of the entities yearend.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Avoyelles Water Commission, and others within the Commission, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

Roy K. Derbonne, Jr.

Certified Public Accountant

November 20, 2007

Roy K. Derbonne, Jr., CPA 1101-A Bolton Avenue Alexandria, LA 71301-6878

Re: Avoyelles Water Commission Response to Findings

Dear Mr. Roy Derbonne:

As previously discussed with you, the following things happened to result in the audit of the Avoyelles Water Commission to be delivered after the June 30, 2007 deadline.

To begin with, I did not realize an audit was required since we had not started operations. I found out an audit is required because of the amount of notes the System had with USDA, an audit is required.

Because of the requirements of my time, it took me a while to put the information needed to complete the audit. Since that time, the System hired a bookkeeper to assist me with the general office and bookkeeping duties of the System.

These steps were taken to ensure the completion of the audit within six months after year end.

Should you need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joan Decuir President

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