



Backflow & Irrigation Specialists

Coastal Inspections, Inc.
458 Shore Rush Drive
Pawleys Island, SC 29585
Office: 843-235-9897 Fax: 843-235-0825
Cell: 843-458-0058

May 5, 2008

Georgetown County Water & Sewer District
Attn: Cross Connection Control Committee
456 Clearwater Drive
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Re: Backflow Inspection and Testing Services

Dear Committee Members,

I have been inspecting backflow prevention devices within the District since 2002 after taking the SCDHEC course conducted by John Watkins with the Bureau of Water. The main theme that was repeated throughout this training was to always "work with your local water authority." I have tried to use this particular advice, over the past five years in building my inspection service with customers and your administrative associates.

In making my decision to enter the 'wonderful world of backflow', I simply saw an opportunity to afford a painless way for homeowners, through my reduced annual fee, multi-year agreements and direct submittal of paperwork to the District office, to become compliant with the annual testing requirements. This is basically a niche business that does not require a full-time effort nor provide an annual income.

Your recent proposal request has a fundamental flaw. The Scope of Services to perform inspections states "...the District's irrigation meter account customers with installed backflow preventers." The vast majority, if not all, of backflow devices used strictly for irrigation are either a ¾" or 1". Therefore there really would be no need to give you pricing on any size valve above those sizes or provide you with any OSHA Confined Space certification.

As you are aware I have not been in favor of removing the inspection process from private testers like myself. I also realize that your request for proposals is partly due to my own and others objections or to provide cover for any subsequent decisions made. My only regret is that upon the formation of this committee you did not request any input from the licensed private testers from Georgetown County prior to formulating any recommendations to the Board.

I have decided that to become your "agent or contractor" will not be financially feasible and personally unconscionable having spent the past 34 years being self-employed.

Therefore I will not be submitting a bid proposal but felt I should at least make all of you aware of this fact.

Sincerely,

Tom McGaughan
Coastal Inspections, Inc.
SC # 122112110