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TOWN OF RIDGECREST, LOUISIANA GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995
with
REPORT OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

LEGISLAN, VE AUDITOR
96 JUL -1 AN 18: 40

under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the audited, or reviewed, 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 8-21-96

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SECTION I - GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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SWITZER, HOPKINS & MANGE

Certified Public Accountants

DENNIS R. SWITZER, CPA H. MYLES HOPKINS, CPA SUSAN E. MANGE, CPA ROXANNE B. JAMES, CPA

JOHN M. JONES, CPA 1921 - 1983

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of December 31, 1995 and for the year then ended as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the provisions of Office of Management and Budget circular A-128, Audits of State and Local Governments. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of December 31, 1995, and the results of its operations and cash flows of its proprietary fund for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated June 25, 1996 on our consideration of the Town of Ridgecrest's internal control structure and a report dated June 25, 1996 on its compliance with laws and regulations.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996 Switzer, Hopkins & Mange

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (COMBINED STATEMENTS-OVERVIEW)

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES-ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES Year Ended December 31, 1995

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals		
		Capital	Debt	(Memorand	um Only)	
	<u>General</u>	Projects	<u>Service</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	
Revenues:						
Taxes	\$ 24,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,889	
Licenses and permits	5,848	-	-	5,848	5,838	
Intergovernmental	37,8 50	-	-	37,850	35,430	
Charges for services	80	-	-	80	394	
Fines	461	-	•	461	828	
Grant income	-	297,511	-	297,511	25,089	
Miscellaneous	<u> 38,033</u>			38,033	7,066	
Total revenues	106,272	297,511		403,783	99,534	
Expenditures:						
General government	41,321	-	-	41,321	25,845	
Public safety-						
Police	6,011	-	-	6,011	6,363	
Fire	5,970	-	-	5,970	6,758	
Capital outlay	-	297,511	-	297,511	25,089	
Street and sanitation	38, 125	-	-	38,125	27,743	
Debt Service -						
Principal retirement	-	-	933	933	-	
Interest expense			1,399	1,399		
Total expenditures	91,427	297,511	2,332	<u>391,270</u>	91,798	
(Deficiency) of revenues				44-		
over expenditures	<u> 14,845</u>		<u>(2,332)</u>	12,513	7,736	
Other financing sources:			447 4495	(67,668)	(2,663)	
Operating transfers (out)	-	-	(67,668)	70,000	(2,003)	
Capital financing			70,000	10,000		
Total other financing			2 772	2,332	<u>(2,663)</u>	
sources			2,332		(2,003)	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and						
other sources over expenditures				4	F A	
and other uses	14,845	-	-	14,845	5,073	
Fund balances, beginning	21,341	-		21,341	16,268	
Fund balances, ending	\$ 36,186	\$ <u> </u>	\$	\$ <u>36,186</u>	\$ <u>21,341</u>	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF RIDGECREST, LOUISIANA GENERAL FUND

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES-BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACUTAL
Year Ended December 31, 1995

FUND	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	•		•	• •		•		•	•		•	•	•	•		
SERVICE	Actual	' **				•	•		•	933	2,332	(2,332)	(89, 68)	7 (000	2,332		
DEBT	Budget	•					•		•	933	2,332	(2,332)	(67,668)	22 (22	75577		
S FUND	Variance Favorable Budget Actual (Unfavorable)	•				•	•		•	•	. .	•	•	•		, ,	
PITAL PROJECTS	Actual	· •			297,511	297,511	•	• •	297,511	•	297,511		•				·
CA	Budget	· •	6 1		297,511	297,511	•	1 1	297,511	•	297,511	•	•			' '	,
Q	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	\$ (951)	547	. (260)	15,442	16,167	(5,052)	970 820	- 911	•	(2,351)	13,816	•	·		13,816	\$ 13,816
GENERAL FUND	Actual	\$ 24,000	37,850	80 4 61	38,033	106,272	41,321	6,011 5,970	38, 125	•	91,427	14,845	•	·		14,845	\$ 36,186
	Budget	\$ 24,951	37,303	80 127	22,591	90, 105	36,269	6,981	39,036	•	89,076	1,029	•	. .		1,029	\$ 22,370
		Revenue	Inte		Gran							Excess of revenues over expenditures			,	sources over expenditures Fund balances, beginning	Fund balances, ending
The a	ccompan	ying	nc	te:	s ar	e a	an in	tegr	al p	art	of	this	stat	emer	1t _		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement. -6-

TOWN OF RIDGECREST ENTERPRISE FUND UTILITY FUND

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995 AND 1994

	<u>1995</u>	1994
Operating revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ <u>111,771</u>	\$ <u>100,222</u>
Operating expenses:		
Salaries	41,158	40,766
Chemicals and supplies	9,399	12,290
Depreciation	30,797	30,635
Utilities and telephone	14,989	13,601
Insurance	8,042	6,729
Laboratory tests	735	755
Payroll taxes	3,370	3,432
Repairs	15,597	9,507
Other expenses	2,920	6,526
Accounting	1,116	1,000
Total operating expenses	128,123	125,241
Operating (loss)	(16,352)	(25,019)
Non-operating revenues (expenses):		
Interest income	244	578
Interest expense	(1,978)	_ (2,168)
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	(1,734)	(1,590)
(Loss) before operating transfers and other	(18,086)	(26,609)
General fixed assets acquired	(69,640)	_
Transfer from general fund	-	2,663
Transfer from debt service fund	67,667	
Total transfers	(1,973)	2,663
Net (loss)	(20,059)	(23,946)
Retained earnings, beginning	371,918	395,864
Retained earnings, ending	\$ 351,859	\$ 371,918

TOWN OF RIDGECREST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995

	<u>1995</u>	(Memorandum Only) 1994
Cash flows from operating activities: Cash received from customers Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	\$ 103,968	\$ 97,142
Cash payments to employees for services Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(59,017) (41,158) 3,793	(50,454) (40,766) 5,922
Cash flows from non-capital financing activiti	<u></u>	
General fixed assets acquired	(69,640)	-
Operating transfers from other funds	67,667	2,663
Increase in consumer deposits	115	390
Net cash provided by non-capital		
financing activities	(1,858)	3,053
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:		
Interest paid on notes	(1,978)	(2,168)
Principal paid on notes	(3,118)	(2,927)
Acquisition of capital assets	(389)	(22,066)
	(5,485)	(27,161)
Cash flows from investing activities: Investment income	244	457
Net increase (decrease) in cash		
and cash equivalents	(3,306)	(17,729)
Cash and cash equivalents at		
January 1, 1995	30,635	48,364
Cash and cash equivalents at	^ ^ ^ - ^ - · · · ·	4
December 31, 1995	\$ 27,329	\$ 30,635
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to recash provided (used) by operating activities Operating income (loss) Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss to net cash provided (used) by operating	\$ (16,352)	\$ (25,019)
activities: Depreciation	30,797	30,635
Changes in assets and liabilities: (Increase) in accounts receivable Decrease in other assets	(7,803)	(3,201) 121
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(1,965)	3,386
(Decrease) in other accrued liabilities	(884)	
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$ 3,793	\$ 5,922

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana was incorporated under the provisions of the Lawrason Act. The Town operates under a Mayor-Board of Aldermen form of government.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

1. Financial Reporting Entity

This report includes all funds and account groups which are controlled by or dependent on the Town executive and legislative branches (the Mayor and Board of Aldermen). Control by or dependence on the Town was determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, authority to issue debt, election or appointment of governing body, and other general oversight responsibility.

2. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Town of Ridgecrest are organized on the basis of funds and account groups each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds are grouped, in the financial statements in this report, into three generic fund types and two broad fund categories as follows:

Governmental Funds-

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Capital Projects Fund

Capital projects funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Debt Service Fund

Debt service funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and payment of, general long-term debt principal interest and related costs.

Proprietary Fund -

Enterprise Fund

Enterprise funds are used to account for operations 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.

3. Fixed assets

The accounting and reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus and only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Public domain (infrastructure) general fixed assets consisting of certain buildings, including roads, bridges, curbs, gutters, streets, sidewalks, drainage systems and lighting systems are not capitalized along with other general fixed assets.

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) are accounted for in the General Fixed Assets Account Group, and are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund types when purchased. No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets.

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a cost of services or "capital maintenance" measurement focus, and all assets and all liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activity are included on their balance sheets.

Depreciation of all exhaustible fixed assets used by proprietary funds is charged as an expense against their operations. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Water Utility -	
Wells	20 years
Storage tanks	40 years
Lines & meters	50 years
Purification plant	33 years
Sewerage Utility -	
Pump stations	20 years
Lines	50 years
Autos & trucks	4 years
Other equipment	6-10 years

All fixed assets are stated at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated fixed assets are stated at their estimated fair market value on the date donated.

4. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Taxpayer-assessed income and gross receipts are considered "measurable" when in the hands of collecting governments and is recognized as revenue at that time. Anticipated refunds of such taxes are recorded as liabilities and reductions of revenue when they are measurable and their validity seems certain.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

All proprietary funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when earned and their expenses are recognized when incurred.

5. Budgets and budgetary accounting

The Town has total revenues of less than \$250,000 and does not have the same budgetary process that is required of municipalities

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

with total revenues of greater than \$250,000. The Town's budget is prepared by the Town Clerk and is adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen. It may be amended during the year by the Board of Aldermen. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.

6. Bad Debts

Uncollectable amounts due for ad valorem taxes and customers' utility receivables are recognized by the direct write off method.

7. Accumulated Unpaid Vacation Pay

The Town does not accrue unpaid vacation pay and has no policy concerning compensation for unpaid vacation pay.

8. Total columns on combined statements - overview

Total columns on the Combined Statements - Overview are captioned Memorandum Only to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations, or changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

NOTE B - PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1. Taxes are levied in December and payable by June 15, of the following year. A list of property taxes due the Town is prepared by the Concordia Parish Assessor, but the Town is responsible for billings and collections. The Town's total millage is 6.03 mills and is dedicated to the general fund.

NOTE C - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Amounts due from other governmental units at December 31, 1995 consisted of the following:

Garbage fees due from Concordia Parish Police Jury \$ 3,628

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1995

NOTE D - RESTRICTED ASSETS-PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE

Restricted assets were applicable to the following at December 31, 1995:

Customer meter deposits

\$ 10,540

NOTE E - CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS

A summary of changes in general fixed assets follows:

	Balance 12-31-94	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12-31-95
Land	\$ 1,700	\$ ~	\$ -	\$ 1,700
Building	48,002	-	_	48,002
Equipment	70,610	2,539	-	73,149
Total	\$ 120,312	\$ 2,539	\$	\$ 122,851

A summary of proprietary fund type property, plant and equipment at December 31, 1995 follows:

Water system	\$ 877,508
Sewer system	219,733
Equipment	52,758
Total	1,149,999
Accumulated depreciation	(452,854)
Net	\$ 697,145

NOTE F - LONG-TERM DEBT

Following is a summary of long-term debt at December 31, 1995.

Proprietary Fund

8% unsecured note due bank, payable in equal monthly installments of principal and interest of approximately \$425 thru 2001 \$ 22,730

Less amount due within one year 3,250 \$\frac{3,250}{19,480}

The annual requirements to amortize the notes payable as of December 31, 1995 are as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1995

NOTE F - LONG-TERM DEBT CONTINUED

Year Ended			
December 31	Principal	Interest	Total
1996	\$ 3,250	\$ 1,845	\$ 5,095
1997	3,500	1,595	5,095
1998	3,700	1,395	5,095
1999	3,900	1,195	5,095
2000	4,100	995	5,095
Thereafter	4,280	815	5,095
	\$ 22,730	\$ 7,840	\$ 30,570

General Long Term Debt

6% note due bank, payable in equal monthly installments of principal and interest of approximately \$777 thru 2005

\$ 69,067

Less amount due within on year

5,180 \$_63,887

The annual requirements to amortize all debt as of December 31, 1995 are as follows:

Year Ended			
December 31	Principal	Interest	Total
1996	\$ 5,180	\$ 4,144	\$ 9,324
1997	5,491	3,833	9,324
1998	5,820	3,504	9,324
1999	6,169	3,155	9,324
2000	6,540	2,784	9,324
Thereafter	39,867	7,544	47,411
	\$ 69,067	\$ 24,964	\$ 94,031

NOTE G - RETIREMENT COMMITMENTS

The Town of Ridgecrest employees are all members of the social security system and are members of no other retirement plan. The expense of the social security is reflected in payroll taxes in the various statements of income.

NOTE H - OTHER REQUIRED INDIVIDUAL FUND DISCLOSURES

1. All bank balances are insured 100% by the FDIC.

SECTION II - SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES

GENERAL FUND

To account for resources traditionally associated with governments which are not required to be accounted for in another fund.

TOWN OF RIDGECREST, LOUISIANA GENERAL FUND

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1995 AND 1994

ASSETS	<u>1995</u>	1994
Cash Receivables:	\$ 32,687	\$ 19,183
Ad valorem taxes Due from other governmental units Total assets	3,305 3,628 39,620	4,400 3,057 26,640
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	3,434	5,299
Fund balance - unreserved Total liabilities and fund balance	36,186 \$ 39,620	21,341 \$ 26,640

TOWN OF RIDGECREST, LOUISIANA GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
Year Ended December 31, 1995

With	Year Ended Comparative Totals	December for Year	31, 1995 Ended December 31,	1994
		1995		
			Variance Favorable	1994
Revenues:	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Actual
Taxes	\$ 24,951	\$ 24,000	\$ (951)	\$ 24,889
Licenses and permits	4,4	ຸນ	7	
30Ve	37,303	37,850	•	•
Charges for services	80	80	1	
Fines	721	461	(260)	828
Miscellaneous	22,591	38,033	15,442	
Total revenues	90,105	106,272		74,445
Expenditures:				
General government	36.269	41.321	(5,052)	25 9AE
Public safety			(4000)	C+0 / C7
Ö	6,981	6,011	970	6.363
Fire	6,790	5,970	820	6.758
Street and sanitation		38,125	911	•
w	89,076	91,427	(2,351)	66, 709
Excess of revenues over				
expenditures	1,029	14,845	13,816	7,736
Other financing sources:				
(To) utility fund	•	•	1	(2,663)
Excess of revenues and other				
rces over	1,	14,845	13,816	5,073
Fund balances, beginning	21,341	21,341	,	16,268
Fund balances, ending	\$ 22,370	\$ 36,186	\$ 13,816	\$ 21,341

LOUISIANA GENERAL FUND RIDGECREST, TOWN OF

(GAAP BASIS) COMPARED EXPENDITURES COMPARED Year Ended December 덩 STATEMENT

BUDGET 1995 31,

1994 31, December Ended Year for Actual Amounts Comparative

With

8,421 2,245 6,946 625 1,884 2,257 917 539 670 341 4,450 264 165 363 484 25,845 Actual 1994 ဖ $\boldsymbol{\vdash}$ (Unfavorable) Favorable Variance-(693) (7) (1,284) (920) (8) 601 7,052) (100) 420 (64) 714 970 (2,125)641) 55 1,567 1,286 1,940 10,544 1,000 2,800 5,500 497 Actual 507 15,000 41,321 64 447 1995 5 9 S 15,000 1,000 1,622 1,516 601 1,172 5,400 4,557 645 Budget 1,161 6,981 247 490 420 ₹¢} professional government department supplies and interest Salaries
Legal and other proference and interest publication expense Other expenses Telephone Supplies Repairs
Utilities Capital outlay general government: police and r expenses Total poli taxes Police:
Salaries
Payroll taxe:
Maintenance Total General

LOUISIANA RIDGECREST, L GENERAL FUND TOWN OF

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO BUDGET (GAAP BASIS)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995
With Comparative Actual Amounts for Year Ended December 31, 1

		1997		
	Budget	Actual	Variance- Favorable (Unfavorable)	1994 Actual
Utilities Repairs	\$ 1,285	\$ 1,178	\$ 107 (313)	\$ 1,458
Payroll taxes	46	900 46	1 1	600 46
Other expenses	1,327	808	519	3.884
Capital outlay Total fire department	3,046	2,539	820	6,758
treet and sanitation:				
Supplies	575	574	+4	3,348
Insurance	984	984	ŀ	
Repairs	10,077	9,167	910	1,240
Garbage collection		26,400		23,155
Audit expense	1,000		i	
Total street and sanitation	d 🕶	ન ∖ા	911	27,743
Total expenditures	\$ 74,076	\$ 91,427	\$(17,351)	\$ 66,709

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement. -20-

TOWN OF RIDGECREST, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION PAID ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995

NAME	TITLE	COMPENSATION	
David Cobb	Alderman	\$	550
Ricky Cullum	Alderman		600
Ronald Barnhill	Alderman		600
Gene Chelette	Alderman		350
Michael Roberts	Alderman		250
Guy Lain	Alderman		50
Housley Varnado	Alderman	_1	,200
Total		\$ <u>3</u>	,600

SECTION III - COMPLIANCE

SWITZER, HOPKINS & MANGE

Certified Public Accountants

DENNIS R. SWITZER, CPA H. MYLES HOPKINS, CPA SUSAN L. MANGE, CPA ROXANNE B. JAMES, CPA JOHN M. JONES, CPA 1921 - 1983

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995, and have issued our report thereon dated June 25, 1996.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana, is the responsibility of Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana's management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Town's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. However, the objective of our audit of the financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported Government auditing Standards.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996 Switzer, Hopkins + Mange

SECTION IV - INTERNAL CONTROL

SWITZER, HOPKINS & MANGE

Certified Public Accountants

DENNIS R. SWITZER, CPA
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL
STRUCTURE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995 and have issued our report dated June 25, 1996.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The management of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgements by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of general purpose financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of inherent limitations in any system of internal accounting control, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

In planning and performing our audit of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana for the year ended December 31, 1995, we obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal structure, we

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana Page Two

obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

We noted a certain matter involving the internal control structure and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgement, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the general purpose financial statements.

We noted that the Town does not have adequate segregations of duties in accounting in the office. We recommend that an attempt be made to strengthen internal control problems created by having few employees.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the general purpose financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of the management and the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996 Switzer, Hopkins & Mange

SECTION V - SINGLE AUDIT REPORTS

SWITZER, HOPKINS & MANGE

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Ridgecrest, Louisiana

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995, and have issued our report thereon dated June 25, 1996. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana, management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the provisions of Office of Management and Budget circular A-128, "Audits of State and Local Governments." Those standards and OMB Circular A-128, require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose 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. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements. The information in that schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements, and in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996

Switzer, Hopkins & Mange

SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1995

1, 1995			1	
Ending Balance December 31, 1995		·	•	•
<u>Expenditures</u>		\$ 278,370	\$ 19,141	\$ 297,511
Receipts		\$ 278,370	\$ 19,141	\$ 297,511
Balance January 1, 1995		· •	•	· •
Program Amount		\$ 303,458	71,665	
Pass Through Grantors Number		101-5026	101-6049	
Federal CFDA Number		14.219		
Federal Grantor/Pass Through Grantor Program Title	#CD	LCDBG program - FY 1994 Street Improvements	LCDBG program - FY 1995 Sewer Improvements	

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Ridgecrest, Louisiana

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995, and have issued our report thereon dated June 25, 1996.

We have applied procedures to test the Town of Ridgecrest's compliance with the following requirements applicable to its federal financial assistance programs, which are identified in the Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance for the year ended December 31, 1995, political activity, Davis-Bacon Act, civil rights, cash management, federal financial reports, allowable costs/cost principles and administrative requirements.

Our procedures were limited to the applicable procedures described in the Office of Management and Budget's Compliance Supplement for Single Audits of State and Local Governments. Our procedures were substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on the Town of Ridgecrest's compliance with the requirements listed in the preceding paragraph. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

With respect to the items tested, the results of those procedures disclosed no material instances of noncompliance with the requirements listed in the second paragraph of this report. With respect to items not tested, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Town of Ridgecrest had not complied, in all material respects, with those requirements. Also, the results of our procedures did not disclose any immaterial instances of noncompliance with those requirements.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL STRUCTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-128

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Ridgecrest, Louisiana

1840 NORTH E. E. WALLACE BLVD.

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995 and have issued our report thereon dated June 25, 1996.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-128, Audits of State and Local Governments. Those standards and OMB Circular A-128 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

In planning and performing our audit for the year ended December 31, 1995, we considered the internal control structure of The Town of Ridgecrest in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Ridgecrest and to report on the internal control structure in accordance with OMB Circular A-128. This report addresses our consideration of internal control structure policies and procedures relevant to compliance with requirements applicable to federal financial assistance programs. We have addressed internal control structure policies and procedures relevant to our audit of the general purpose financial statements in a separate report dated June 25, 1996.

The management of the Town of Ridgecrest is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgements by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana Page Two

recorded properly to permit the preparation of general purpose financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that federal financial assistance programs are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors, irregularities, or instances of noncompliance may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

For the purpose of this report, we have classified the significant internal control structure policies and procedures used in administering federal financial assistance programs in the following categories:

Political activity Davis Bacon Act Civil rights

. . . .

Cash management Federal financial reports Allowable costs Administrative reports

For all the internal control structure categories listed in the preceding paragraph, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and determined whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk.

During the year ended December 31, 1995, the Town of Ridgecrest had no major federal financial assistance programs and expended 100 percent of its total federal financial assistance under the following nonmajor programs:

LCDBG - Street Improvements LCDBG - Sewer Improvements

We performed tests of controls, as required by OMB Circular A-128, to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of internal control structure policies and procedures that we considered relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with specific requirements, general requirements, and requirements governing claims for advances and reimbursements and amounts claimed or used for matching that are applicable to the aforementioned nonmajor programs. Our procedures were less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on these internal control structure policies and procedures. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Our consideration of the internal control policies and procedures used in administering federal financial assistance, would not necessarily

The Honorable David Cobb, Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Ridgecrest, Louisiana Page Three

disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might constitute material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with laws and regulations that would be material to a federal financial assistance program may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control structure and its operations that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution in not limited.

Ferriday, Louisiana June 25, 1996

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