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**SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8 OF THE
PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended September 30, 1997

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 **JAN 14 1998**

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(A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Supervisors
Sewerage District No. 8
of the Parish of St. Mary,
State of Louisiana

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We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, a component unit of the St. Mary Parish Council as of and for the year ended September 30, 1997, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the District's officials. 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 applicable to financial audits contained in 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 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. 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 Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, as of September 30, 1997, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund type 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 October 25, 1997 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting, and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Section of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying financial information listed as "Supplemental Information" in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana. Such information, except for that portion marked "unaudited" on which we express no opinion, has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial information for the preceding year which is included for comparative purposes was taken from the financial report for that year in which we expressed an unqualified opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana.

Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Morgan City, Louisiana
October 25, 1997

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(COMBINED STATEMENTS - OVERVIEW)

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Group
September 30, 1997

	<u>Governmental</u> <u>Fund Type</u> <u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Proprietary</u> <u>Fund Type</u> <u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Account Group</u> <u>General Long-</u> <u>Term Debt</u>	<u>Totals</u> <u>(Memorandum Only)</u>	
				<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS					
Cash	\$ -	\$ 3,126	\$ -	\$ 3,126	\$ 6,948
Interest-bearing deposits, at cost	127,836	563,862	-	691,698	633,112
Receivables:					
Accounts	-	8,081	-	8,081	8,603
Accrued interest	-	19,982	-	19,982	1,923
Prepaid insurance	-	676	-	676	486
Deposits	-	145	-	145	145
Restricted assets:					
Interest-bearing deposits, at cost	-	17,462	-	17,462	15,946
Utility property, plant and equipment	-	2,545,449	-	2,545,449	2,550,383
Accumulated depreciation	-	(582,210)	-	(582,210)	(538,252)
Amount available in debt service fund	-	-	127,836	127,836	138,880
Amount to be provided for retirement of general long-term debt	-	-	1,008,164	1,008,164	1,097,120
Total assets and other debits	<u>\$127,836</u>	<u>\$2,576,573</u>	<u>\$1,136,000</u>	<u>\$3,840,409</u>	<u>\$3,915,344</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 7,472	\$ -	\$ 7,472	\$ 4,230
Accrued liabilities	-	9,596	-	9,596	32,824
Payable from restricted assets - Customers' deposits	-	15,500	-	15,500	14,380
Long-term debt - General obligation bonds payable	-	-	1,136,000	1,136,000	1,236,000
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>32,568</u>	<u>1,136,000</u>	<u>1,168,568</u>	<u>1,287,434</u>
Fund equity:					
Contributed capital	-	1,946,941	-	1,946,941	1,999,414
Retained earnings - Unreserved	-	597,064	-	597,064	489,616
Fund balance - Reserved for debt service	127,836	-	-	127,836	138,880
Total fund equity	<u>127,836</u>	<u>2,544,005</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,671,841</u>	<u>2,627,910</u>
Total liabilities and fund equity	<u>\$127,836</u>	<u>\$2,576,573</u>	<u>\$1,136,000</u>	<u>\$3,840,409</u>	<u>\$3,915,344</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Comparative Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Fund Type
Years Ended September 30, 1997 and 1996

	<u>Debt Service Fund</u>	
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Revenues:		
Taxes - ad valorem	\$157,739	\$ 212,944
Miscellaneous	5,409	31,211
Total revenues	<u>163,148</u>	<u>244,155</u>
Expenditures:		
Current -		
General government:		
Administrative	5,997	11,712
Debt service -		
Principal retirement	100,000	104,000
Other - advance refunding escrow	-	452,394
Interest and fiscal charges	68,195	153,772
Total expenditures	<u>174,192</u>	<u>721,878</u>
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	(11,044)	(477,723)
Other financing sources (uses):		
Operating transfers in	-	100,000
Proceeds of refunding debt	-	1,340,000
Payment to refunded bond escrow agent	-	(1,322,606)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>117,394</u>
Deficiency of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	(11,044)	(360,329)
Fund balance, beginning	<u>138,880</u>	<u>499,209</u>
Fund balance, ending	<u>\$127,836</u>	<u>\$ 138,880</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance -
Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual
Governmental Fund Type
Year Ended September 30, 1997

	<u>Debt Service Fund</u>		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance - Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Taxes - ad valorem	\$157,739	\$157,739	\$ -
Miscellaneous	<u>4,663</u>	<u>5,409</u>	<u>746</u>
Total revenues	<u>162,402</u>	<u>163,148</u>	<u>746</u>
Expenditures:			
Current -			
General government:			
Administrative	5,574	5,997	(423)
Debt service -			
Principal retirement	100,000	100,000	-
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>68,195</u>	<u>68,195</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditures	<u>173,769</u>	<u>174,192</u>	<u>(423)</u>
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	(11,367)	(11,044)	323
Fund balance, beginning	<u>138,880</u>	<u>138,880</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance, ending	<u>\$127,513</u>	<u>\$127,836</u>	<u>\$ 323</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Retained Earnings
Proprietary Fund Type
Years Ended September 30, 1997 and 1996

	<u>Enterprise</u>	
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Operating revenues:		
Charges for sewer service	\$ 98,195	\$ 102,522
Permits	275	175
Delinquent charges	2,107	2,273
Miscellaneous	99	17
Total operating revenues	<u>100,676</u>	<u>104,987</u>
Operating expenses:		
Advertising	401	1,752
Accounting	7,325	6,550
Bad debt expense	326	158
Bank charges	-	44
Contract labor	1,651	946
Depreciation	53,738	54,059
Insurance	17,367	16,346
Office supplies	1,945	1,744
Meeting expense	2,160	2,462
Miscellaneous	1,912	139
Postage	2,079	1,989
Repairs	8,808	5,817
Salaries	45,975	48,257
Sewer treatment charges	39,844	40,247
Supplies	6,654	3,245
Taxes	4,267	4,255
Telephone	3,288	3,550
Truck expense	3,600	3,600
Utilities	7,072	6,434
Total operating expenses	<u>208,412</u>	<u>201,592</u>
Operating loss	<u>(107,736)</u>	<u>(96,605)</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):		
Taxes - ad valorem	145,120	52,881
Interest income	25,975	24,911
Assessors compensation	(5,056)	(2,128)
Operating transfers out	-	(100,000)
Loss on sale of fixed assets	(3,328)	-
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>162,711</u>	<u>(24,336)</u>
Net income (loss)	54,975	(120,941)
Add: Depreciation on fixed assets acquired by federal and state grant revenues externally restricted for capital acquisitions and construction that reduces contributed capital	<u>52,473</u>	<u>51,534</u>
Increase (decrease) in retained earnings	107,448	(69,407)
Retained earnings, beginning	<u>489,616</u>	<u>559,023</u>
Retained earnings, ending	<u>\$ 597,064</u>	<u>\$ 489,616</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Comparative Statements of Cash Flows
Proprietary Fund Type
Years Ended September 30, 1997 and 1996

	Enterprise	
	1997	1996
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Operating loss	\$(107,736)	\$ (96,605)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used by operating activities -		
Depreciation	53,738	54,059
Changes in current assets and liabilities:		
Decrease in accounts receivable	522	239
(Increase) in other assets	(18,249)	(1,054)
Increase in accounts payable	3,242	193
Increase (decrease) in accrued liabilities	(23,228)	22,938
Increase in customer deposits	1,120	1,373
Total adjustments	17,145	77,748
Net cash used by operating activities	(90,591)	(18,857)
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:		
Ad valorem taxes	140,064	50,753
Cash paid to other funds	-	(100,000)
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing sources	140,064	(49,247)
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:		
Acquisition of utility property, plant and equipment	(8,374)	(5,865)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	200	-
Net cash used by capital and related activities	(8,574)	(5,865)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of interest-bearing deposits	(93,993)	(321,580)
Proceeds from the sale and maturities of interest-bearing deposits	66,580	380,717
Interest received on interest-bearing deposits	25,975	24,911
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(1,438)	84,043

(continued)

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Comparative Statements of Cash Flows (Continued)
Proprietary Fund Type
Years Ended September 30, 1997 and 1996

	Enterprise	
	1997	1996
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	39,861	10,074
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	195,596	185,522
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 235,457	\$ 195,596
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents per statement of cash flows to the balance sheet:		
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period -		
Cash - unrestricted	\$ 6,998	\$ 6,220
Interest-bearing deposits - unrestricted	494,232	545,674
Interest-bearing deposits - restricted	15,946	14,340
Less: Interest-bearing deposits with a maturity over three months	(321,580)	(380,712)
Total cash and cash equivalents	195,596	185,522
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period -		
Cash - unrestricted	3,126	6,998
Interest-bearing deposits - unrestricted	563,862	494,232
Interest-bearing deposits - restricted	17,462	15,946
Less: Interest-bearing deposits with a maturity over three months	(348,993)	(321,580)
Total cash and cash equivalents	235,457	195,596
Net increase	\$ 39,861	\$ 10,074

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary (District), which is a component unit of the St. Mary Parish Council, was created by an ordinance dated August 8, 1984 of the St. Mary Parish Council (formerly Police Jury). The District operates under a Board of Supervisors. The purpose of the District is to provide sewerage treatment services to citizens residing within Sewerage District No. 8.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513 and to the industry audit guide, Audits of State and Local Governmental Units.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

A. Financial Reporting Entity

This report includes all funds and account groups which are controlled by or dependent on the District executive and legislative branches (the Board of Supervisors). Control by or dependence on the District 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.

The District is a component unit of the Parish of St. Mary. Although the Parish does not provide facilities or financing, it does exercise some control over operations.

B. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the District 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 comprise 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 two generic fund types and two broad fund categories as follows:

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

GOVERNMENTAL FUND -

Debt service fund

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

PROPRIETARY FUND -

Enterprise fund

Enterprise funds are 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. The District's enterprise fund is the Utility Fund.

C. Fixed Assets and Long-Term Liabilities

The accounting and reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus.

All governmental fund type operations 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.

Long-term liabilities expected to be financed from governmental funds are accounted for in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group.

The proprietary fund is accounted for on a cost of services or "capital maintenance" measurement focus, and all assets and all liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with its activity are included on its balance sheet.

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:

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Sewerage Utility:	
System	50 years
Equipment	8 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 years

D. Basis of Accounting

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.

Ad valorem taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which budgeted, that is, in the year in which such taxes are billed. Other major revenues that are considered susceptible to accrual include intergovernmental revenues and interest on interest-bearing deposits.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred, except that principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due. Purchases of various operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased.

The proprietary fund is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting whereby revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. Unbilled utility service receivables, resulting from utility services rendered between the date of meter reading and billing and the end of the month, are not estimated and recorded at year end. In the opinion of the administration, such amounts cannot be accurately determined and would have no material effect on the fairness of the financial statements.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. The District Secretary prepares a proposed budget and submits it to the Board of Supervisors no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.
2. A summary of the proposed budget is published and the public notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called.
3. A public hearing is held on the proposed budget at least ten days after publication of the call for the hearing.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

4. After the holding of the public hearing and completion of all action necessary to finalize and implement the budget, the budget is adopted through passage of a resolution prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is being adopted.
5. Budgetary amendments involving the transfer of funds from one department, program or function to another or involving increases in expenditures resulting from revenues exceeding amounts estimated require the approval of the Board of Supervisors.
6. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
7. Budgets for all funds are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted or as amended by the Board of Supervisors. Such amendments were not material in relation to the original appropriations.

F. Bad Debts

Uncollectible amounts due for customers' utility receivables are recognized as bad debts by direct write-off at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectibility of the particular receivable. Although the specific charge-off method is not in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), no allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable was made due to immateriality.

G. Vacation and Sick Leave

On January 27, 1989, the District adopted an annual vacation and sick leave policy for all full time employees. Vacation varies with the length of service and cannot be carried forward. Sick leave is accrued at a rate of one half day per month and is allowed to accumulate up to sixty days. No sick leave is payable on termination. At September 30, 1997, \$3,934 of vacation pay and sick leave was accrued.

H. Interest-Bearing Deposits

Interest-bearing deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

I. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond September 30, 1997, are recorded as prepaid items.

J. Statement of Cash Flows

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the District considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

K. Comparative Data

Comparative total data for the prior year have been presented in the accompanying financial statements in order to provide an understanding of changes in the District's financial position and operations. However, comparative (i.e., presentation of prior year totals by fund type) data have not been presented in each of the statements since their inclusion would make the statements unduly complex and difficult to read.

L. Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not employed by the District as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the funds.

M. Memorandum Only - Total Columns

Total columns on the general purpose financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present 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.

N. Fund Equity

Contributed capital is recorded in proprietary funds that have received capital grants or contributions from developers, customers or other funds. Reserves represent those portions of fund equity not appropriable for expenditure or legally segregated for a specific future use.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

0. Adoption of GASB Statement No. 27

During the year ended September 30, 1997, the Sewerage District of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana adopted GASB Statement No. 27. Accounting for Pensions by State and Local Government Employers. Although this statement is effective for periods beginning June 15, 1999, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board is encouraging early implementation.

(2) Meeting Expense

Meeting expense paid to the Board of Supervisors for the year ending September 30, 1997, is as follows:

Clyde Crappell, Chairman	\$ 720
Ken Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer	720
Ray Rentrop, Supervisor	<u>720</u>
	<u>\$2,160</u>

(3) Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits

Under state law, the District may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank 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 District may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At September 30, 1997, the District has cash and interest-bearing deposits (book balances) totaling \$691,698 as follows:

Demand deposits	\$ 3,126
Money market accounts	364,801
Time deposits	<u>323,771</u>
 Total	 <u>\$691,698</u>

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. Deposit balances (bank balances) at September 30, 1997, are secured as follows:

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Bank balances	\$ 705,385 =====
Federal deposit insurance	\$ 352,088
Pledged securities (Category 2)	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total federal insurance and pledged securities	\$1,502,088 =====

Pledged securities in Category 2 includes uninsured or unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the broker or dealer, or by its trust department or agent in the District's name.

(4) Ad Valorem Taxes

Ad valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 of each year. Taxes are levied by the District in September or October and are actually billed to taxpayers in November or December. Billed taxes become delinquent on January 1 of the following year. The St. Mary Parish Sheriff bills and collects property taxes for the District using the assessed values determined by the tax assessor of St. Mary Parish. District property tax revenues are budgeted in the year billed.

For the year ended September 30, 1997, 13.44 mills were authorized and dedicated as follows:

Sewerage system maintenance	6.44 mills
Debt service	7.00 mills

Total taxes levied were \$302,859. There were no taxes receivable at September 30, 1997.

(5) Utility Property, Plant and Equipment

A summary of property, plant and equipment at September 30, 1997 follows:

Sewerage Department -	
System	\$2,445,353
Equipment	8,158
Furniture and fixtures	<u>91,938</u>
	2,545,449
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>582,210</u>
Net utility property, plant and equipment	\$1,963,239 =====

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Depreciation expense for the years ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is \$53,738 and \$54,059, respectively.

(6) Changes in Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of bond transactions of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for the year ended September 30, 1997:

	<u>General Obligation</u>
Bonds Payable, October 1, 1996	\$1,236,000
Bonds retired	<u>(100,000)</u>
Bond payable, September 30, 1997	<u>\$1,136,000</u>

Bonds payable at September 30, 1997 is composed of the following individual issue:

General obligation bonds:

\$1,340,000 1996 Sewerage bonds; due in annual installments of \$104,000 to \$184,000 through March 1, 2005; interest rate of 5.75 percent per annum; payable by levy and collection of ad valorem taxes	<u>\$1,136,000</u>
--	--------------------

The annual requirements to amortize all debt outstanding as of September 30, 1997, including interest payments of \$287,500, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 30.</u>	<u>General Obligation</u>
1998	\$ 170,215
1999	171,775
2000	172,875
2001	177,400
2002	173,465
2003-2005	<u>557,770</u>
	<u>\$1,423,500</u>

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

(7) Retirement Commitments

All employees of the District who are hired on a permanent basis not participating in another public funded retirement system are required to participate in the Louisiana State Employees Retirement System.

State statute requires covered employees to contribute 9.5 percent of their salaries to the System. The System required an employer contribution equal to 7.75 percent of each covered member's salary for wages paid to members. The District's contribution to the System for the years ended September 30, 1997, 1996 and 1995 were \$6,727, \$6,504 and \$6,381 respectively, equal to the required contribution for each year.

A publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplemental financial information may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System.

(8) Intergovernmental Agreement

A. On July 26, 1997 the district entered into an agreement with the St. Mary Parish Council to pay a portion of the Parish's General Obligation Bonds used for the construction of the regional sewerage treatment facility in Wards 5 and 8.

The annual requirement to amortize this debt including interest of \$206,997, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending</u> <u>September 30,</u>	<u>Parish</u> <u>General</u> <u>Obligation</u>
1998	\$ 120,566
1999	120,710
2000	121,014
2001	120,249
2002	120,587
2003-2004	<u>360,940</u>
	<u>\$ 964,066</u>

The Parish has obligated a portion of its 3/4 cents sales tax revenues to pay these bonds. The District's liability in 1997 (difference in sales tax collection and payment obligation) is not measurable and therefore is not recorded as a liability.

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

(9) Pending Litigation

The District is presently not involved in any litigation.

(10) Excess of Expenditures over Appropriations

The Debt Service Fund had excess expenditures over appropriations as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable <u>(Unfavorable)</u>
Administrative Expenditures	\$5,574	\$5,997	\$(423)

The excess expenditures were caused by the bond payment costs exceeding projections.

(11) Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principals requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions. Those estimates affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. They may also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses of proprietary funds during the reporting period.

**SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION**



Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

(A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants)

Eugene H. Darnall, CPA, 1990

F. F. F. CPA
Danny P. F. CPA
Clayton F. F. CPA
Eugene H. Darnall, CPA
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Chris A. M. CPA
Alan M. CPA
Jane R. CPA
Christine A. R. CPA
John P. CPA
Steven G. CPA
Ellen P. CPA
Tamara L. CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

125 Rue de la...
Lafayette, LA 70508
318-481-1111
12311 La...
Bossier, LA 70605
318-333-1111
1201 B...
Morgan City, LA 70350
504-381-1111
4011 St...
Abbeville, LA 70510
337-871-1111

The Board of Supervisors
Sewerage District No. 8
of the Parish of St. Mary,
State of Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, a component unit of the St. Mary Parish Council as of and for the year ended September 30, 1997, and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 1997. We have conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana's, financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, provided an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Sewerage District No. 8 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters

Approved by
Certified Public Accountants
Signed by
Certified Public Accountants

involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions

Finding:

Due to the small number of employees the District did not have adequate segregation of functions within the accounting system.

Recommendation:

Based upon the size of the operation and the cost-benefit of additional personnel, it may not be feasible to achieve complete segregation of duties.

Response:

No response is considered necessary.

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the 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 over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses.

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

Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Morgan City, Louisiana
October 25, 1997

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Schedule of Number of Utility Customers
(Unaudited)
September 30, 1997

Records maintained by the District indicated the following number of sewerage customers were being served during the month of September, 1997 and 1996:

1997	530
1996	512

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Schedule of Insurance in Force
(Unaudited)
September 30, 1997

<u>Description of Coverage</u>	<u>Coverage Amounts</u>
Comprehensive general liability, bodily injury and property damage/combined single limit	\$2,000,000
Surety bonds -	
Ken Cooper	10,000
Clyde Crappell	10,000
Ray Rentrop	10,000
Leo Harrington	10,000
Eva Harrington	10,000
Barbara Segura	10,000
Business auto (hired and non-owned)	1,000,000
Workmen's compensation -	statutory
Employer liability	100,000
Fire, lightning, and extended coverage -	
Building and contents, all risks except flood and earthquake	62,000

SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY,
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Combined Schedule of Interest-Bearing Deposits - All Funds
September 30, 1997

	<u>Term</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Debt Service Fund:				
Insured money market	N/A	N/A	various	\$ 53,725
Priority Savings Account	N/A	N/A	2.86%	<u>74,111</u>
Total debt service fund				<u>127,836</u>
Utility Fund:				
Certificate of deposit -				
Teche Federal Savings Bank	12 months	2/5/98	5.12%	43,771
Teche Federal Savings Bank	18 months	12/19/97	6.25%	280,000
Midsouth National Bank	18 months	11/16/97	5.35%	25,223
Insured money market	N/A	N/A	various	179,027
Priority Savings Account -				
Teche Federal Savings Bank	N/A	N/A	2.75%	<u>35,841</u>
Total utility fund				<u>563,862</u>
Total - all funds				<u>\$691,698</u>