

# Wastewater Spill Notification in South Carolina



David G. Baize

Assistant Bureau Chief

Bureau of Water

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# **Existing Process**

- DHEC provided guidelines to wastewater utilities on developing a voluntary notification program:
  - www.scdhec.gov/environment/wpc\_sso.htm.
- Many utilities did develop a voluntary program
- Permit requires notification of any spill that reaches waters of the state, over 500 gallons, or impacting public health or environment



# New Requirements

- February 1, 2012, H.B. 3617 was signed by the Governor
- Placed new requirements for significant spills on wastewater utilities
- Significant spill is a discharge of at least 5,000 gallons of untreated or partially treated domestic sewage



### New Requirements

- The utility must report a significant spill to the Department orally within 24 hours and in writing within 5 days
- The utility must provide public notice of a significant spill within 24 hours of discovery
- If the utility does not provide this notification, in addition to any enforcement response, DHEC shall provide public notice

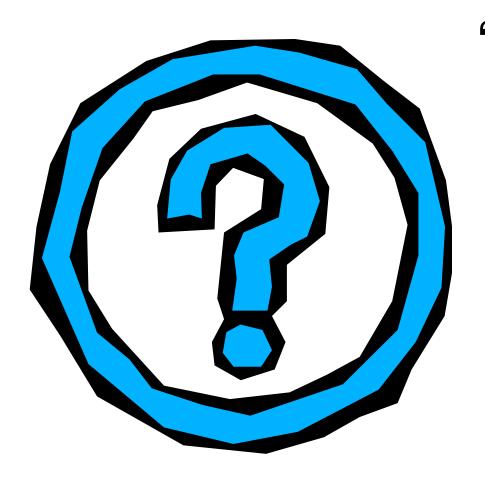


# New Requirements

- If a utility has more than two significant spills per one hundred miles of collection system during a 12 month period, DHEC shall issue an order directing the utility to comprehensive review of the system
- DHEC in the process of contacting utilities notifying them of the new requirements and asking for total miles of their collection system



#### Questions?



"When the well is dry, we learn the worth of water" -Benjamin Franklin