WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM CONNECTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR LOW TO MODERATE INCOME PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CALABASH PORTION OF THE FORMER SOUTH BRUNSWICK WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY SERVICE AREA

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to set forth the principles and guidelines for the provision of financial assistance to handicapped and low to moderate income property owners located in Calabash portion of the former South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority service area who desire to connect to the County wastewater collection system. The proposed connection assistance program is not designed to assist property owners with the payment of assessments against their property for construction of a wastewater collection system and cannot be used to pay the monthly sewer service fees after connection.

BACKGROUND: In the settlement of the bankruptcy of the South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority, the court designated a limited amount of funds to assist property owners in the former service area of the South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority to connect to the County wastewater collection system. The County, in conjunction with the Town of Calabash, is in the process of expanding the wastewater collection system that serves the property owners within the Town limits. The Town was included as a part of the South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority service area. Wastewater service will be available to approximately 800 lots that presently do not have wastewater service available upon completion of the wastewater collection system construction project. The County Board of Commissioners and Calabash Board of Commissioners have mutually agreed to use the funds from the settlement to assist handicapped and low to moderate income property owners to connect to the County wastewater collection system.

DEFINITIONS:

Low to Moderate Income Property Owner: A low to moderate income property owner is a property owner whose annual income does not exceed the standards for low to moderate income limits as established by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for Brunswick County. A copy of the income limits based upon family size shall be attached to this policy.

Handicapped Property Owner: A property owner who has been determined to be handicapped by a unit of government including the US Office of Veteran Affairs, Social Security Administration, or NC Department of Social Services. In the case of multiple owners, only one property owner must be determined to be handicapped to be eligible for the program.

Wastewater Connection: A wastewater connection is the connection from the existing structure to the County installed service. For gravity systems, the connection will be from the house to the service located within the street right-of-way or easement. For a connection to a low pressure system, the connection will be from the house to the service on the grinder pump station and includes the electrical work associated with the connection of the control box to the household electrical system.

Wastewater Tap Fee: For the purposes of this program, the cost of a wastewater connection shall be defined as the wastewater tap fee.

POLICY: To be eligible for financial assistance under this program, the property owner must complete and submit an application to the County. The application must be properly signed by all parties who have an interest in the property. Renters will not be eligible to apply under this program.

All applications will be received and evaluated on a first-come first-served basis. Incomplete applications will be returned and reevaluated upon resubmittal.

An Application Review Committee will be established consisting of one representative from the Town and one from the County to review the application and determine their eligibility for the program.

Each application will be reviewed. Those applications that meet program requirements will be notified of their acceptance. Those applications that do not meet program requirements will be notified that they were not approved.

The Application Review Committee will review the application to make sure that the proposed wastewater connection is located within the former South Brunswick Water and Sewer Authority service area and that the property owner meets the requirements for handicapped and/or low to moderate income.

All applicants will be notified if they have been approved or not approved for the program after review by the Application Review Committee.

Applications will be accepted and approved until all of the funds from the settlement have been allocated.

Those applications that are approved under this program will be eligible to receive financial assistance for connecting to the wastewater collection system. To receive the financial assistance, the property owner must:

1. Make application for sewer service at the Brunswick County Customer Service Office.
2. Contract with a licensed plumber and/or electrician for work associated with the connection.
3. The plumber must obtain a plumbing permit from the appropriate Building or Inspections Department.
4. Have the plumbing connection inspected and approved by the Town.
5. Submit a request to the County for payment with a copy of the approval of the connection by the Town.
6. The eligible property owner is eligible to receive one half of the cost of the Wastewater Tap Fee as defined in this policy. The maximum amount of financial assistance for any one connection to the wastewater collection system shall be as follows:

Low Income	65% to 80% of Median Income	$300
Very Low Income	64% to 50% of Median Income	$400
Extremely Low Income	Less than 50% of Median Income	$500

FY 2009 Income Limits Documentation System

FY 2009 Income Limits Summary

Wilmington, NC HUD Metro FMR Area										
FY 2009 Income Limit Area	**Median Income**	**FY 2009 Income Limit Category**	**1 Person**	**2 Person**	**3 Person**	**4 Person**	**5 Person**	**6 Person**	**7 Person**	**8 Person**
Wilmington, NC HUD Metro FMR Area	$57,600	Very Low (50%) Income Limits	$20,150	$23,050	$25,900	***$28,800***	$31,100	$33,400	$35,700	$38,000
		Extremely Low (30%) Income Limits	$12,100	$13,850	$15,550	***$17,300***	$18,700	$20,050	$21,450	$22,850
		Low (80%) Income Limits	$32,250	$36,900	$41,500	***$46,100***	$49,800	$53,500	$57,150	$60,850

The **Wilmington, NC HUD Metro FMR Area** contains the following areas: Brunswick County, NC ; and New Hanover County, NC .

Income Limit areas are based on FY 2009 Fair Market Rent (FMR) areas. For a detailed account

BRUNSWICK COUNTY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SBWSA SEWER HOOK-UP PROGRAM
Application & Eligibility Certification

I. Applicant Data

Name of Homeowner(s) (First, MI, Last): _____

Street Address: _____ _____

Mailing Address: _____ _____ Zip Code: _____

City: _____ County: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Do you Own the Home? _____

III. Household Membership

	Sex	Birth Date	SS# (last 4 digits only)	*Race	**Hispanic	Relation to Homeowner
1)						
2)						
3)						
4)						
5)						
6)						
7)						

IV. Gross Income Work Table **Dollars per Household Member per MONTH**

Source (Attach Copies as Proof)	**Household Members' Names:**				Total
1) Wages					
2) Retirement/Pension					
3) Social Security					
4) Supplemental Security Income					
5) Public Assistance					
6) Child Support					
7) Interest					
8)					

V. Applicant Certifications

I hereby certify that:

1) I have not yet connected to the Public Sewer system;
2) The above information is complete and true to the best of my knowledge;
3) This information is provided to qualify me for the Brunswick County Planning & Community Development Sewer Hook-up program to assist low and moderate income residents connect to the public sewer system.
4) I give permission to access information to verify the contents of this application and to facilitate the water connection to my home.
5) I have been advised that my gender, race and ethnicity will be determined based upon observation if I do not self disclose the information.

_____ _____

Applicant Signature Date

DO NOT COMPLETE BELOW - OFFICE USE ONLY

Does the applicant own this home? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐ If no, is the Landlord income eligible? _____

Does the applicant's household qualify based on the income criteria? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐

Annual Gross Household Income _____

☐ Very Low (0-30% MFI) ☐ Low (31-50% MFI) ☐ Moderate (51-80% MFI) ☐ Over

☐ **Owner 62+** ☐ **Member Disabled** ☐ **Female Headed Household** ☐ **Household Size 5+**

*Race: White (11); Black/African American (12); Asian (13); American Indian/Alaska Native (14); Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (15); Amercan Indian/Alaskan Native & White (16); Asian & White (17); Black/African American & White (18); American Indian/Alaska Native & Black/African American (19); Other Multi-Racial(20);and, Asian/Pacific Islander (21). ** Hispanic Yes/No

Return Application to: P. O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422