

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Salisbury Issues an Update on Water Conservation Matter
*Diesel Pumps at River Pump Station Begin Process of Filling Reservoir - Level II
Conservation Efforts to Continue*

Salisbury, NC_January 9, 2009 – The City of Salisbury has issued an update as of 10:30 am today, regarding Level Two Mandatory Water Conservation measures initiated late yesterday afternoon. Salisbury Rowan Utilities customers and users are requested to continue with Level Two Conservation efforts until further notice. Measures were begun in response to electrical damage which occurred to a Duke Energy transformer at the pump station earlier this week, when heavy winds tore through the Salisbury-Rowan region.

Duke Energy responded with the supply of a replacement transformer however the initial transformer installation was unsuccessful. Upon the failed installation, Salisbury Rowan Utilities (SRU) immediately implemented established back-up plans which have included utilization of temporary diesel pumps to fill the reservoir. Duke Energy immediately followed up with delivery and installation of a second replacement transformer late yesterday evening. However, on-site city contractors concur that damage to the pump station's electrical system has taken place. Steps are currently underway to survey the extent of the damage and to begin the necessary repairs.

SRU Director Jim Behmer shares, "The Statesville Emergency Interconnection is fully functional, and we are receiving potable water directly into our distribution system. This support will allow us to regain water levels. In addition, the temporary diesel pumps are up and running and filling the reservoir."

The City of Salisbury will continue to issue timely updates regarding the status of repairs and the need for conservation efforts by water users. Citizens and Salisbury-Rowan Utilities customers and users with questions or concerns may contact the SRU Hotline and speak with Services Manager Patrick Kennerly at 704-202-4660. Information regarding Level II Mandatory Conservation measures is available and obtainable to citizens at the following locations:

- Online via the City of Salisbury's homepage at www.salisburync.gov by accessing the link entitled "Level II Water Restrictions (pdf)"

- By viewing ACCESS 16 Government Television, local channel 16, and observing the scrolling marquee and additional informational segments which are currently running in conjunction with regularly scheduled programming
- By visiting the Salisbury City Office Building's Customer Service Counter, 1st Floor (132 N. Main Street), during normal business hours and requesting a printed copy of this information

City Manager David Treme shares, "With our citizens' conservation efforts, we are maintaining our reservoir level and meeting our system's daily demand for water. Later today, we expect to increase our levels in the reservoir. We would like to thank our customers for conserving water during this emergency." The City of Salisbury will continue to issue updates as additional information becomes available.

Given the nature of the worksite environment and in response to necessary safety measures, the City has limited access to the pump station facility. Photographs, outlining the temporary pumping system being utilized for filling the reservoir, are available to the media online by accessing www.salisburync.gov and clicking the linking entitled "Pump Station Photos."

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities currently serves residential and business customers in the cities of Rockwell, Salisbury, Spencer, East Spencer, and Granite Quarry with additional water supply support to other local client communities.

The City of Salisbury is an equal opportunity employer with over 180 different job classifications and over 400 full-time positions. For more information regarding the City, its services or career opportunities, please visit the City of Salisbury on the World Wide Web at www.salisburync.gov.

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