



November 2, 2000

Mr. John F. Damico President Environmental Rate Consultants, Inc. 2113 Greenbriar Place Union, Kentucky 41091

RE: STORM WATER UTILITY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

To Whom This May Concern:

In the early 1990s, the City Of Fort Wayne Utilities hired John Damico, currently with Environmental Rate Consultants, Inc. (ERC), and a national engineering firm to create and implement a Stormwater Utility program.

With John Damico as project lead, this team developed and successfully implemented a comprehensive Stormwater Utility program including rate study analysis, comprehensive cost of service work, and billing methodology development. Since its inception in 1993, our impervious surface based stormwater utility has generated over \$25 million in revenue for much needed stormwater operations, maintenance and capital programs. Beyond the technical aspects of our program, John and his firm were particularly adept at strategy development and consensus building with key stakeholders in our stormwater program.

I would not hesitate to hire John and ERC in the future.

Sincerely,

CITY UTLITIES WATER RESOURCES

Greg Meszaros Associate Director City of Fort Wayne (219) 427-1160