



**Lorain County
Rural Wastewater District**
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MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

November/December 2011

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

By: Robert J. Berner

The final two months of the year always seem to go so fast. Thanksgiving will be here soon and the Christmas season is already beginning. November also marks a monumental month for LORCO. We will certify our Phase 1 project operational in early November. Although we have been connecting new customers since early June, November will mark our official certification date. This means the collection and transmission system in parts of Eaton and Carlisle Townships is fully operational.

It has been a long time in coming. LORCO's history has been working toward this date since first being certified as a sewer district under section 6119 of the Ohio Revised Code on February 4, 1997. The project for parts of Eaton and Carlisle Township has been known as our Phase 1 project. We refer to it as Phase 1 because it is just the beginning of our mission. It was very important for LORCO to actually achieve success in Phase 1 because it is the foundation of our chartered existence. If Phase 1 had not been feasible, LORCO would not exist and the planning and development of sanitary sewers to our member communities would be much more difficult.

The certification of the system will also bring on a new set of requirements for properties located within our Phase 1 sewer district. The certification date marks the date when properties are now required by law to connect to the sewer system. Prior to certification, properties could connect to our system but LORCO could not mandate connection. We have been very fortunate to have a large percentage of property owners begin the connection process throughout the

summer. On the certification date, LORCO will submit a list of properties to the Lorain County General Health District who have not connected or have not given LORCO paperwork with their intent to connect. These properties will receive a certified letter informing them they will have 90 days to connect to the LORCO collection system. The official start up date of the LORCO Phase 1 system represents when LORCO becomes a self sustaining public utility.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

By: James McConnell

The certification of our Phase 1 project certainly is a big day for LORCO. I want to thank all the homeowners who have been patient throughout the construction for their continued cooperation. I also want to thank the team of professionals who over the years have made all of this possible.

Thank you to: the Lorain County Township Association who initiated the regional sewer district concept; our engineers at GRW, they have been with us from day one; Fred Alspach, our first Executive Director, who guided LORCO through the tough years; Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Coop, who has helped LORCO become a reality with guidance and financial support; Avon Lake Municipal Utilities for providing the financial support and construction management on the project; our legal council at Stumphauer & O'Toole and our financial advisors at Ridachi & Co. who have kept us on track; and finally, our board of trustees for their planning, development and policy initiatives through the years. For everyone who has made LORCO possible, your years of service and sacrifice are a tribute to your character and dedication.