



**American Water Works
Association**

6666 West Quincy Avenue
Denver, CO 80235-3098
T 303.794.7711
F 303.795.1989
www.awwa.org

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water SM

NewsRelease

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 2, 2006**

**CONTACT: Greg Kail
303-734-3410
gkail@awwa.org**

W. R. WISE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY ACHIEVES HIGHEST LEVEL OF PLANT PERFORMANCE

Greenwood Commissioners of Public Works Only Fourth Utility
in Nation to Reach Pinnacle of Performance

(DENVER, CO) – The Greenwood Commissioners of Public Works' W. R. Wise Water Treatment Plant in Greenwood, South Carolina, became just the fourth water utility ever to receive Phase IV "Excellence in Water Treatment" recognition from the *Partnership for Safe Water*.

This program is a national volunteer initiative developed by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and other water organizations. Water suppliers in the *Partnership* strive to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards. Phase IV is the highest possible level of performance that can be achieved in the *Partnership* program, and signifies optimized plant performance.

"Reaching the 'Excellence in Water Treatment' level of performance is a very significant achievement that demonstrates our steadfast commitment to superior water quality for our customers," said David Tuck, W. R. Wise plant manager. "The performance requirements in the *Partnership for Safe Water* are stringent, but are something we wanted to meet for the benefit of our customers."

"This award is an example of the entire organization's goals to not only meet, but exceed the community's expectations," added Steve Reeves, general manager. "The Commissioners, management, and employees are extremely proud of the efforts demonstrated by the water treatment plant staff."

The *Partnership* currently includes more than 200 water utilities, collectively serving more than 85 million people. Each utility has committed to the enhancement of drinking water quality and operational excellence in water treatment. As members of the *Partnership*, utilities make a pledge to their communities to improve their treatment operations to reduce the risk of exposure to microbial contaminants that can cause illness. By making this commitment the member utilities' treatment practices undergo a rigorous review developed by national experts, and includes a four-phased self-assessment and peer review process.

-- more --

The Partnership for Safe Water is sponsored by the American Water Works Association, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, United States Environmental Protection Agency, National Association of Water Companies, and the American Water Works Association Research Foundation.

