

March 11, 2014

To: Potential Members

Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (ORWARN)

As numerous winter storms have struck other states in recent years, we are reminded that natural disasters are still by-far the most frequent, costly and life threatening hazards facing Oregonians today.

Preparing for and responding to severe weather, earthquakes, mudslides and floods, often require neighboring local jurisdictions to cooperate and share resources. This is more importantly true in the utility industry where local resources can be quickly overwhelmed by many events that can have severe impacts on communities.

I want to sincerely encourage you to consider joining ORWARN, a mutual-aid organization for Oregon's water and wastewater utilities. Membership and participation also complies with the FEMA and EMAC Mutual Aid Agreement requirements for response and reimbursements. With today's diminishing resources and increasing demands, it truly makes a difference to develop and promote professional mutual-aid systems and relationships.

The ORWARN system in Oregon proved a great success during the 2007/2008 winter storms and snowfall for one local community's water system. ORWARN members have even helped communities in other parts of the nation to manage recovery from natural disaster. I encourage you to learn more and investigate the benefits. This effort continues a time-honored tradition of neighbors-helping-neighbors. Please take a moment to review the ORWARN effort at: www.orwarn.org

Thank you for your time and effort. If you have any questions, please call me at: 503-378-2911, ext. 22292.

David Stuckey

Director