

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 5, 2024

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Pickens Regional Joint Water System was formed in 2019 with 3 member water systems: Easley Central Water District, Six Mile Rural Community Water District, and the City of Pickens; along with the Pickens County Water Authority. In 2021, the City of Liberty joined our efforts. Last month, the City of Pickens voted to withdraw from our System, once again leaving 3 water systems and the County Water Authority.

Together, our members remain committed to our mission, a water system of, by, and for the people of Pickens County, using Pickens County water to serve the citizens of Pickens County today and for years to come.

Our county is growing. Having affordable, abundant, clean drinking water available to our citizens is more important than ever before. Our new water system will be there for our families and businesses, for all the new families and businesses coming to Pickens County, and to bring clean drinking water to parts of our county that have never had it.

In the coming months, we will break ground on phase one of our water transmission system. This network will connect our members and allow us to work together for the benefit of our customers. Our plan is to break ground on our water treatment plant on Lake Keowee in 2025. This will give us local, clean drinking water for all our members and for other Pickens County water systems that may need it for their growth.

To be clear, once our joint water system is fully functioning, our members will continue to operate just as they are today, serving their individual customers with the support of the joint system supplying water. Together we will all be stronger.

We are excited about the future of Pickens County and the Pickens Regional Joint Water System. Our vision has not changed. Our mission has not changed. Our commitment to the people of Pickens County and building together for our future is as strong as it was when we started in 2019.