

1973 WL 26621 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

February 16, 1973

**\*1 Re: Beech Island Rural Community Water District**

Mr. Douglas Kurt Schueler  
Accountant  
State Workmen's Compensation Fund  
1026 Sumter Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Doug:

You have inquired of this office as to the eligibility of the Beech Island Rural Community Water District for coverage under the State Workmen's Compensation Fund.

Section 72-455 of the South Carolina Code of Laws provides for optional coverage under the State Fund for 'Any county or municipality in the State or agency or institution thereof . . .', providing that they exercise the option and pay a prescribed annual charge.

Section 59-626 of the South Carolina Code of Laws constitutes the enabling legislation passed in 1964 authorizing the formation of Rural Community Water Districts within each county. It appears from the wording of the enabling statute that the Rural Community Water District is an agency or institution of the County which would qualify it for inclusion under the State Fund Workmen's Compensation insurance pursuant to Section 72-455 of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

It is the opinion of this office, therefore, that the Beech Island Rural Community Water District is eligible for coverage under the State Workmen's Compensation Fund. It is the further opinion of this office that they must take the affirmative step of exercising the option that is available and pay the required annual charge levied by the State Fund before they are effectively brought under the insurance coverage.

It is hoped that the foregoing has been of assistance to you. Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

With kindest regards, I am  
Very truly yours,

G. W. Thomason  
Assistant Attorney General

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