

For Immediate Release:

## Middlesex Water Company to Invest \$4.0 Million to Upgrade Water Infrastructure in the City of South Amboy

*Iselin, NJ* (May 17, 2011) – Middlesex Water Company plans to invest approximately \$4.0 million in 2011 in its RENEW Program, a rehabilitative effort to clean and cement-line previously unlined water mains, and to replace water mains, valves and fire hydrants, where necessary, in targeted areas.

The Company plans to upgrade approximately 17,500 linear feet of 6, 8 and 10-inch water main in the City of South Amboy. Areas targeted for this year's program include water mains under streets east of South Pine Ave, south of Augusta St to the boundary with Sayreville. The overall project is expected to begin in May and end in late October. Individual streets in the project area are expected to be affected for a period of 2-3 months.

"Through our RENEW program, we are able to make strategic, targeted investments in our water distribution infrastructure that result in enhanced water quality and water pressures for our customers," said Richard M. Risoldi, Chief Operating Officer of Middlesex Water. "As we work to methodically upgrade the 120 remaining miles of unlined water main in our 734-mile Middlesex system, we are pleased to be able to access state revolving funds offered through the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust for help in funding this important initiative at a very low cost."

The RENEW Program involves cleaning accumulated harmless mineral deposits from older sections of cast iron pipe and installing a new cement lining. The project, which involves rehabilitation, rather than more costly replacement, helps to restore the original useful life of older pipe and helps to improve overall water quality and service while strengthening the water distribution infrastructure. The Company has also identified areas in the project zone where water mains, valves and fire hydrants will undergo a complete replacement. Approximately 6,000 feet of water main is expected to be replaced as part of this effort.

## (More-More-More)

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To ensure uninterrupted water service during the project, Middlesex Water erects and installs a temporary above-ground service including hydrants and water service connections while the water mains are being cleaned and lined. Aboveground piping will be visible along the curbs on both sides of the street. The program may require that water personnel enter customers' homes. Customers are strongly reminded to ask for credentials from utility personnel prior to allowing them entry and for added security, to contact Middlesex Water Company at (732) 634-1500 to verify the authenticity of the utility representative at their door. Customers affected by the RENEW Program will receive direct notice from the Company's contractor.

The RENEW Program should not interfere with the delivery of water. Customers can expect to receive continuous water service, except for the few minutes when service is being transferred to and from temporary lines, or when maintenance on the temporary line is required.

Anyone with questions about the RENEW Program or those experiencing extended interruption of service as a result of work being done should call Middlesex Water Company at 732-634-1500 and ask to speak with a RENEW program representative. RENEW Updates can be found on our website at <u>www.middlesexwater.com</u> under the section About Us/Investing in our Infrastructure.

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For More Information, Call: Bernadette M. Sohler, Vice President – Corporate Affairs, 732-634-1500 Middlesex Water Company www.middlesexwater.com