Virtual Pipe Monopoly Costs North Carolina
More Than $150,000 per Mile

Closed Competition
Raleigh, North Carolina

Open Competition
Charlotte, North Carolina

Savings of up to $155,902 Per Mile
Pipe Cost

- OPEN COMPETITION Charlotte, NC allows all materials that meet specifications to be considered for a project. It enjoys lower pipe capital costs on average. However, Raleigh, NC, mandates only one material for 8-12" water supply pipe, granting a virtual monopoly costing taxpayers an average of $155,902 per mile in additional pipe capital cost alone.

- Savings on average, for 8-12" pipe capital costs in OPEN COMPETITION Charlotte, NC were more than 49% compared to Raleigh, NC with a virtual pipe monopoly for one material, ductile iron.

- Eight to 12" pipe in Raleigh, NC, which maintains a virtual monopoly, cost on average $57.73 per foot, but in OPEN COMPETITION Charlotte, NC it cost $28.21 per foot on average, a difference of $29.53 per foot, saving $155,902 per mile in pipe capital costs alone.

- For every ten miles of pipeline, OPEN COMPETITION could save $1.55 million in pipe capital costs alone.

Estimated Pipeline 2014 Capital Costs by Pipeline Diameter, for Raleigh and Charlotte, North Carolina. Source: BCC Research

A copy of the full study: Comparison of Water Main Pipeline Installation Lengths and Costs in North and South Carolina, BCC Research, April, 2016 will be available at: www.greenbuildingsolutions.org/pipe