TO: Retailers Located In or Making Sales to Aiken County
FROM: South Carolina Department of Revenue
RE: Capital Projects Tax for Aiken County

Effective January 1, 2013 Aiken County “re-imposes” its 1% Capital Projects Tax.

Aiken County’s current Capital Projects tax will end on December 31, 2012. This is due to Aiken County meeting its maximum cap amount of $114,412,985.

Aiken County will impose a new capital projects tax that will take effect on January 1, 2013. As a result, the new 1% capital projects tax will exempt sales or purchases of unprepared food in Aiken County from the 1% capital projects and the 6% state sales and use tax rate.

However, all other sales or purchases will be subject to the state and local sales and use tax rate unless specifically exempt from the state or local tax rate.

Foods which may be purchased with food stamps are exempt. This exemption applies to everyone, not just people using food stamps.

Foods which may be purchased with food stamps and are exempt from the 1% capital projects tax include:

- Any food intended to be eaten at home by people, including snacks
- Seeds and plants intended to grow food (not flower seeds or bird seed)
- Cold prepared items, such as salads or sandwiches, intended to be eaten at home

Items which cannot be purchased with food stamps and are, therefore, subject to the 1% capital projects tax are:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Tobacco
- Hot foods ready to eat
- Foods designed to be heated in the store
- Hot or cold food to be eaten at a lunch counter, in a dining area or anywhere else in the store
- Vitamins or medicines
- Pet food
- Any non-food items such as tissue, soap or other household goods

For more detailed information on this food exemption, see SC Regulation 117-337 and SC Informational Letter 12-1.

If you have questions concerning reporting of sales, please call one of the following Taxpayer Service Centers:

Columbia Main Office 803-898-5000
Columbia Field Collections 803-898-5200
Charleston Service Center 843-852-3600
Florence Service Center 843-661-4850
Greenville Service Center 864-241-1200
Myrtle Beach Service Center 843-839-2960
Rock Hill Service Center 803-324-7641