SCADA

1. What do is the most innovative use your utility has made of SCADA technology? What steps did operations and IT staff have to take in order to make this application of SCADA technology possible? What were the biggest barriers you encountered in implementing this application?

2. What work needs to be done on the operations side in order to use SCADA data on run time, temperature, vibration, and other parameters as a basis for preventive or predictive maintenance?

3. Do you have, or plan to have, SCADA data information available via mobile devices, and to allow system modifications to be performed from mobile devices?

4. How is your SCADA connected with other software systems your organization uses, such as GIS?

5. Has your way of using SCADA affected the qualifications or skills you need operations staff to possess? If so, how?

6. What are your goals for more advanced use of SCADA technology in the future?

7. How do you make sure that your SCADA documentation is up to date so that if you primary SCADA person leaves, the person who replaces them will be able to see what logic is driving the monitoring and control functions?

8. Given cost constraints now and for the forseeable future, could utilities save money by collaborating and working toward standardized platforms, rather than having each agency develop a customized application? Would it be feasible to have an interagency SCADA/IT team and share a proportionate cost to set up, maintain, and integrate our various systems?

9. Should we be linking information from our individual SCADA systems (on a read-only basis) when water and wastewater systems are operationally interrelated, for the sake of economy and improved coordination?
SCADA (continued)

10. Given the rapid pace of technical change (e.g., rapid evolution of mobile devices), should agencies hold off on substantial upgrades to their SCADA systems? For example, will traditional SCADA systems and monitors be supplemented by mobile devices using external servers (the cloud)?