



USDA Announces \$331 Million Investment for Clean Water Infrastructure in Rural Communities

Nearly Half of Grant Funds to Assist Persistently Poor StrikeForce Counties

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1, 2016 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is [investing \\$331 million in 85 projects](#) that will improve water and wastewater infrastructure in rural areas in 39 states and American Samoa. Community infrastructure investments are a key piece of USDA's mission to support America's rural communities, and these investments build on the \$13.9 billion USDA has invested over the course of the Obama Administration to support 5,825 water and waste infrastructure projects that currently benefit 19.5 million rural residents.

"Strategic investments like these into community infrastructure provide a path to rural economic growth," Vilsack said. "Water and wastewater upgrades protect the health and safety of those who live and work in rural areas, and are especially critical given today's aging infrastructure in areas that have not fully benefited from rural America's economic rebound. Modernizing water and wastewater systems improves the quality of life and can help attract jobs to rural communities."

USDA is providing \$264 million in loans and \$67 million in grants through Rural Development's [Water & Environmental Programs](#). These programs provide assistance and financing to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems for communities with 10,000 or fewer residents.

For example, in South Carolina, the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission is receiving a \$34.8 million USDA loan and a \$1.2 million USDA grant to construct a water treatment plant. Currently, the Commission purchases water from three separate water systems, whose infrastructure is aging.

The Summit Springs Regional Waste District in Henry County, Ind., is receiving a \$1.4 million loan and a \$4.2 million grant for a sewer rehabilitation project to address raw sewage leakages and to comply with environmental regulations.

The city of Truth or Consequences in Sierra County, N.M., has been selected for a \$715,000 loan and a \$4.5 million grant for the second phase of wastewater treatment plant improvements to comply with environmental regulations. Sierra County is included in USDA's [StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity](#) initiative to address persistent poverty across America.

Of the 85 projects announced today, 21 are located in [StrikeForce](#) areas, and one project – an [Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant](#) in Jackson, Ky., – is also in an area targeted for

assistance by the Obama Administration's [Promise Zone initiative](#). These 21 projects are receiving more than \$63 million in loans and \$30 million in grants, which is 28 percent of today's total investment and nearly 45 percent of the grant funding.

Funding for each project announced today is contingent upon the recipient meeting the terms of the loan, grant or loan/grant agreement.

Today's funding builds on USDA's historic investments in rural America over the past seven years. Since 2009, USDA has worked to strengthen and support rural communities and American agriculture, an industry that supports one in 11 American jobs, provides American consumers with more than 80 percent of the food we consume, ensures that Americans spend less of their paychecks at the grocery store than most people in other countries, and supports markets for homegrown renewable energy and materials.

Since 2009, USDA [Rural Development](#) (@USDARD) has invested \$13.9 billion for 5,825 water and waste infrastructure projects, benefiting 19.5 million rural residents; invested nearly \$13 billion to start or expand nearly 112,000 rural businesses; helped 1.1 million rural residents buy homes; funded nearly 9,200 community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care facilities; and helped bring high-speed Internet access to nearly 6 million rural residents and businesses. USDA also has invested \$38.2 billion in 1,057 electric projects that have financed more than 198,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines serving 4.6 million rural residents. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/results.

To read more about USDA's investments in rural America and its successful turnaround, visit USDA's entry on Medium.com, [Rural America Is Back in Business](#).

Water and Environmental Programs

Program Description : This program provides funding for drinking water systems, sewage and solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to rural homes and businesses.

State	County Name	Cong. District	Recipient	Project Type	Loan	Grant	Initiatives
AL	Clay	3	Ashland Waterworks and Sewer Board	Wastewater Plant Upgrade	\$ 420,000.00		
AL	Henry	2	Henry County Water Authority, Inc.	Water System Improvement: Phase 9	\$ 4,995,000.00	\$ 412,000.00	
AL	Marengo	7	Linden Utilities Board	Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH): Plan for Wastewater Treatment System Upgrades*		\$ 9,000.00	PP , SF
AR	Craighead	1	Buffalo Island Regional Water District	Existing Water System Improvements		\$ 87,000.00	SF
AS	Eastern	0	American Samoa Power Authority	SEARCH: Plan to Develop New Water System 2016*		\$ 30,000.00	
AZ	Cochise	2	Douglas, city of	Colonias: New Wastewater Facilities		\$ 6,883,056.00	SF
CA	Lake	5	Big Valley Band Of Pomo Indians	SEARCH: Water System Improvements*		\$ 30,000.00	
CA	Imperial	51	Niland Sanitary District	Colonias: Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements		\$ 3,813,700.00	PP
CT	Windham	2	Putnam, town of	Water Quality Improvements	\$ 1,101,000.00		
GA	Washington	10	Sandersville, city of	Water and Sewer Improvements Project	\$ 12,792,000.00		PP, SF
GA	Dooley	2	Unadilla, city of	Wastewater Treatment Plant and Land Application System Improvements	\$ 9,666,000.00	\$ 3,004,000.00	PP, SF
HI	Honolulu	2	Kahuku Water Association	SEARCH: Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report Development*		\$ 30,000.00	
IA	Jefferson	2	Fairfield, city of	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	\$ 24,995,000.00		
ID	Clearwater	1	New Hope Water Corporation	Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant (ECWAG) and Regular Loan: Water Supply**	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	
ID	Canyon	1	Notus, city of	Notus Waterwater System: Upgrades	\$ 1,305,000.00	\$ 380,000.00	
ID	Clearwater	1	Weippe, city of	Sewer Project Inflow and Infiltration	\$ 1,600,000.00	\$ 1,544,000.00	
IL	Douglas	15	Arcola, city of	Watermain and Meter Replacements	\$ 870,000.00		
IL	Shelby	15	EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.	ECWAG: Water Distribution**		\$ 40,000.00	
IL	Shelby	15	EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.	Watermain Construction: Phase 47	\$ 975,000.00		
IL	Shelby	15	EJ Water Cooperative, Inc.	Watermain Installation: Phase 34	\$ 250,000.00		
IL	Iroquois	16	Lake Iroquois Association	Sewer Treatment Improvements	\$ 425,000.00		
IL	Piatt	13	Monticello, city of	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	\$ 14,285,000.00		
IN	Delaware	6	Albany, town of	Wastewater Utility Improvements	\$ 4,859,000.00		
IN	Delaware	6	Eaton, town of	Waterwater System Improvements: Phase 1	\$ 12,552,000.00		
IN	Blackford	3	Montpelier, city of	Wastewater Improvement Project	\$ 10,841,000.00	\$ 1,935,000.00	
IN	Elkhart	2	Nappanee, city of	Wet Weather Alternative: Sewer	\$ 1,982,000.00		
IN	Benton	4	Oxford, town of	Wastewater Long Term Control Plan	\$ 5,821,000.00	\$ 2,588,000.00	
IN	Gibson	8	Pike-Gibson Water, Inc.	Water System Improvement Project	\$ 8,089,000.00	\$ 1,999,000.00	
IN	Tippecanoe	4	Romney Regional Sewer District	Wastewater Collection and Treatment System	\$ 925,000.00	\$ 1,675,000.00	
IN	Henry	6	Summit Springs Regional Waste District	Sewer System Rehabilitation	\$ 1,405,000.00	\$ 4,179,000.00	
IN	Henry	6	Public Wholesale Water Supply District No. 27 Brown Co				
KS	Brown	2	Green River Valley Water District	District Establishment: Phase 1	\$ 2,497,000.00	\$ 1,054,500.00	
KY	Hart	2	Jackson, city of	2016 Water Treatment Plant Expansion	\$ 5,600,000.00	\$ 2,400,000.00	SF
KY	Breathitt	5	Jackson, city of	ECWAG: Water Treatment**		\$ 150,000.00	PP, SF, PZ
KY	Union	1	Morganfield, city of	Water Treatment Plant and Line Upgrade: FY 2016	\$ 2,634,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	SF
LA	Ouachita	5	Sterlington, town of	Water Treatment Plant and Purchase	\$ 9,408,000.00		PP, SF
MD	Talbot	1	Talbot County	Bio-Solid Treatment Facility	\$ 628,000.00		
ME	Lincoln	1	Boothbay Harbor Sewer District	Union Street Pump Station Upgrades Project: FY 2016	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	
ME	Kennebec	1	Vassalboro Sanitary District	Interconnection with Winslow and System Upgrades: FY 2016	\$ 2,113,000.00	\$ 1,700,000.00	
MI	Crawford	1	Beaver Creek-Grayling Townships Utility Authority	Water System	\$ 1,741,000.00		
MI	Crawford	1	Beaver Creek-Grayling Townships Utility Authority	Sewer System	\$ 2,359,000.00		
MI	Mason	2	Ludington, city of	Water Treatment Plant Improvements: Phase 2	\$ 711,000.00		
MS	Prentiss	1	Baldwyn, city of	Upgrade Existing Sewer System 2016	\$ 5,609,000.00	\$ 3,191,000.00	PP, SF
MT	Cascade	0	Belt, City of	Sewer System Upgrades: FY 2015/2016	\$ 960,000.00	\$ 547,100.00	
MT	Daniels	0	Flaxville, town of	Wastewater Improvement Project	\$ 405,000.00	\$ 780,000.00	
MT	Carbon	0	Fromberg, town of	Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 912,000.00	\$ 1,082,000.00	
NC	Watauga	5	Boone, town of	Raw Water Intake: Phase 1	\$ 12,000,000.00		PP, SF
NC	Johnston	7	Micro, town of	SEARCH: Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report Development*		\$ 30,000.00	
ND	Cavalier	0	Langdon, city of	Water System Improvement Project	\$ 4,806,000.00	\$ 145,820.00	
ND	Stutsman	0	Stutsman Rural Water District	Phase III Water System Expansion Project	\$ 640,000.00		
NE	Clay	3	Fairfield, city of	Sewer Project	\$ 1,305,000.00		
NE	Stanton	1	Pilger, village of	Regular/ECWAG: Water Improvement Project FY 2016	\$ 207,000.00	\$ 767,900.00	
NJ	Cumberland	2	Downe Township	Pre-Development Planning Grant: Fortescue Wastewater Project		\$ 30,000.00	
NJ	Salem	2	Salem, city of	ECWAG: Develop New Water Well for Potable Water**		\$ 500,000.00	
NM	Dona Ana	2	Chamberino Mutual Domestic Water Consumer and Sewer Association	Regular/Colonias: Water System Improvements-Tank/Well/Lines	\$ 141,000.00	\$ 2,594,200.00	SF
NM	Taos	3	Llano Quemado Mutual Domestic Water Consumer Association	Water System Improvemements	\$ 124,000.00	\$ 124,000.00	PP, SF
NM	Sierra	2	Truth or Consequences, city of	Regular and Colonias: Wastewater Treatment Plant, Phase 2B	\$ 715,000.00	\$ 4,515,400.00	PP, SF

NY	Clinton	21	Mooers, town of	PPG: Water and Wastewater Study		\$ 11,000.00	
OH	Jefferson	6	Jefferson County	ECWAG: Smithfield Water Tank**		\$ 150,000.00	
OH	Mahoning	13	Mahoning County	New Middletown Pump Station & Force Main	\$ 3,300,000.00	\$ 926,500.00	
OK	Delaware	2	Rural Sewer District No. 1, Delaware County	Sewer Treatment Plant	\$ 635,500.00		PP, SF
OK	Pittsburg	2	The Pittsburg County Water Authority	Water Treatment Plant Improvements	\$ 338,000.00		SF
PA	Wayne	10	South Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority	Water System Improvements: Phase 3	\$ 6,876,600.00		
PA	Wayne	10	South Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority	Sewer System Improvements: Phase 3	\$ 10,267,000.00	\$ 6,362,300.00	
SC	Georgetown	7	Brown's Ferry Water Company, Inc.	SEARCH: Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report Development*		\$ 30,000.00	SF
SC	Laurens	3	Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission	Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant	\$ 34,810,000.00	\$ 1,184,400.00	
SC	Oconee	3	Pioneer Rural Water District	Lake Hartwell Water Treatment Plant	\$ 2,902,000.00		
SD	Day	0	Bristol, city of	Lagoon Improvements: FY 2016	\$ 406,000.00	\$ 169,000.00	
TN	Polk	3	Copperhill, city of	Water System Rehabilitation: FY 2016	\$ 783,000.00	\$ 647,000.00	
TN	Decatur	7	Decatur County	SEARCH: Scotts Hill*		\$ 30,000.00	SF
TN	Crockett	8	Friendship, city of	ECWAG: Well Contamination**		\$ 45,900.00	SF
TX	Bastrop	27	Aqua Water Supply Corporation	Refinance Rural Development Loan 16	\$ 800,000.00		
TX	Denton	26	Black Rock Water Supply Corporation	Water Supply Well and Elevated Water Storage Tank	\$ 2,009,000.00		
TX	Shackelford	19	Fort Griffin Special Utility District	Crossing Hubbard Creek Reservoir FY 2015	\$ 3,746,000.00		
TX	Briscoe	13	Quitaque, city of	Electrodialysis Reversal Water Treatment	\$ 932,000.00		SF
TX	Dickens	13	White River Municipal Water District	Surface Plant Modifications	\$ 2,611,000.00	\$ 1,280,000.00	PP, SF
UT	Summit	1	Coalville Water Department	Coalville Water System Improvements	\$ 4,809,000.00	\$ 3,935,346.00	
VA	Caroline	1	Bowling Green, town of	Sewer Repair/Replacement	\$ 6,316,000.00		
VT	Rutland	0	Brandon, town of	Champlain Pump Station FY 2016	\$ 499,000.00	\$ 153,400.00	
VT	Chittenden	0	Champlain Housing Trust, Inc.	Sunset Terrace Mobile Home Park: FY 2016	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 40,760.00	
WA	King	1	Skykomish, town of	SEARCH: Preliminary Engineering System Plan*		\$ 30,000.00	
WI	Monroe	3	Kendall, village of	Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades	\$ 1,038,000.00	\$ 1,372,000.00	
WI	Chippewa	7	Lake Holcombe Sanitary District No. 1	Sewer Extension to Pike Lake: FY 2014		\$ 15,000.00	
WV	Jefferson	2	Jefferson County Public Service District	Sewer System Improvement Project	\$ 3,575,000.00		
WV	Kanawha	2	Malden Public Service District	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	\$ 912,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	
WY	Washakie	0	Ten Sleep, town of	Sewer Line Replacement	\$ 251,000.00	\$ 473,000.00	
85			TOTALS		\$ 264,124,100.00	\$ 67,106,282.00	

Special Evaluation Assistance
for Rural Communities and

- * Households
Emergency Community Water
** Assistance Grant



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News Release

Release No. 0304.15

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USDA Provides \$314 Million in Water and Waste Infrastructure Improvements in Rural Communities Nationwide

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2, 2015 – USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced loans and grants for 141 projects to build and improve water and wastewater infrastructure in rural communities across the nation.

"Many rural communities need to upgrade and repair their water and wastewater systems, but often lack the resources to do so," Vilsack said. "These loans and grants will help accomplish this goal. USDA's support for infrastructure improvements is an essential part of building strong rural economies."

USDA is awarding \$299 million for 88 projects in the [Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program](#) and \$15 million for 53 grants in the [Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant \(ECWAG\) program](#).

ECWAG grants enable water systems that serve eligible rural communities to prepare for, or recover from, imminent or actual emergencies that threaten the availability of safe drinking water. Water and Waste program recipients can use funds to construct water and waste facilities in rural communities.

The Big Sandy Rancheria Band of Western Mono Indians in Fresno, Calif., has been selected to receive a \$494,300 ECWAG grant to drill a well and connect it and another well to the water system.

The Columbia Heights Water District in Caldwell, La., has been selected to receive a \$736,000 water and waste loan to upgrade the water storage tank and related equipment at the wastewater treatment plant. The community is in an area of persistent poverty that USDA has targeted for special assistance through the [StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity Initiative](#).

Three recipients receiving funding today were given priority points through a provision in the 2014 Farm Bill that encourages communities to adopt regional economic development plans. These projects are centered on regional collaboration and long-term growth strategies. They leverage outside resources and capitalize on a region's unique strengths.

The recipients are the West Stewartstown (N.H.) Water Precinct, the Lowcountry Regional Water System in Hampton, S.C., and the city of Waubun, Minn. All three projects involve upgrades to water and wastewater systems. The Hampton, S.C., project is in a high-poverty area designated as a [Promise Zone](#). In areas designated as Promise Zones, federal, state and private-sector partners work with local communities and businesses to create jobs, increase economic security, expand educational opportunities, and increase access to quality, affordable housing.

Six of the projects announced today will provide \$3.9 million to benefit Native American areas. These

water and waste awards include the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in Minnesota and five projects in California, including Big Sandy Rancheria, two awards to the Cortina Band of Wintun Indians, the Grindstone Indian Rancheria and the Yurok Tribe.

Two projects will provide \$9.1 million for colonias in New Mexico. The recipients are the Garfield Mutual Domestic Water Consumers & Mutual Sewer Works Association and the La Luz Mutual Domestic Water Association. Colonias are unincorporated, low-income, mostly Hispanic U.S. communities along the Mexico border that lack adequate housing, drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

Since 2009, USDA has helped provide improved water and wastewater services to nearly 18 million rural residents by investing \$12.3 billion in 5,174 projects.

Funding of each [award announced today](#) is contingent upon the recipient meeting the terms of the grant and loan agreement.

Here is an example of how a previously funded project has helped improve water service in a rural community. In Sparta, Tenn., antiquated equipment could not handle rainwater runoff, causing sewage to spill out of drains. In 2011, USDA provided \$2.9 million to Sparta to build a new wastewater system, ending the major sewage problem.

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for loans and grants to build rural water infrastructure. Applications may be completed online through RDAPPLY, a new electronic filing system, and at [state and local Rural Development offices](#). Public entities (counties, townships and communities), non-profit organizations and tribal communities with a population of 10,000 or less are eligible to apply. Interest rates for this program are at historically low levels, ranging from 2 percent to 3.25 percent. Loan terms can be up to 40 years. For more information, visit <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply>.

President Obama's plan for rural America has brought about historic investment and resulted in stronger rural communities. Under the President's leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way – strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities.

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Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants Program

November 2015

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Emergency
AR	Northeast Arkansas Public Water Authority of the State of Arkansas	\$96,400	Flooding
AZ	Alpine Domestic Water Improvement District	\$150,000	Wildfire
CA	Alpaugh Community Services District	\$170,000	Drought
CA	Arvin Community Services District	\$309,956	Drought
CA	Big Sandy Rancheria	\$494,300	Drought
CA	Cortina Band of Wintun Indians of California	\$144,000	Drought
CA	Cortina Band of Wintun Indians of California	\$224,520	Drought
CA	Fresno, City of	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Grindstone Indian Rancheria	\$477,000	Drought
CA	Gauadalupe, City of	\$347,000	Drought
CA	Idyllwild Water District	\$215,000	Drought
CA	Kettleman City Community Services District	\$142,000	Drought
CA	Lamont Public Utility District	\$438,036	Drought
CA	Lost Hills Utility District	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Orange Cove, City of	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Planada Community Services District	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Rio Dell, City of	\$373,200	Drought
CA	San Luis Obispo, County of	\$500,000	Drought
CA	San Simeon Community Services District	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Stratford Public Utilities District	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Strickland Mutual Water Company	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Tulare, County of	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Tulare, County of	\$500,000	Drought
CA	Yuba, County of	\$36,632	Drought
CA	Yurok Tribe	\$499,300	Drought
DE	Municipal Services Commission	\$500,000	Contamination
HI	Hawaiian Shores Community Association	\$6,500	Hurricane
HI	Wood Valley Water & Farm Cooperative	\$29,000	Hurricane
IA	Denison Municipal Utilities	\$500,000	Drought
IA	Guttenberg, City of	\$150,000	Freezing
IA	Osceola County Rural Water System, Inc	\$48,000	Freezing
IA	Panora, City of	\$147,000	Flooding
IA	Southwest Regional Water District	\$147,000	Freezing
ID	Mountain View Water & Road Association	\$431,000	Earthquake/well collapse
IL	Belle Rive, Village of	\$130,000	Heavy Rains/Flooding
IL	Roodhouse, City of	\$473,620	Heavy Rains/Flooding
KS	Medicine Lodge City of	\$500,000	Drought
MD	Henderson, The Commissioners of	\$175,000	Freezing
MN	Calumet, City of	\$49,000	Freezing
NC	Warren County Water & Sewer District No. III	\$150,000	Flooding
NE	Barneston, Village of of	\$80,500	Heavy Rains/Flooding
NE	Barneston, Village of	\$101,600	Heavy Rains/Flooding
NE	Prosser, Village of	\$84,000	Contamination
NY	Shandaken, Town of	\$150,000	Freezing
OK	Atoka County Rural Water System & Solid Waste Management District #4	\$142,000	Flooding
OK	Cherokee County Rural Water District #7	\$42,868	Flooding
OK	Sequoyah County Rural Water District #3	\$113,710	Flooding
TN	Waynesboro City of	\$500,000	Contamination
VT	Westfield Fire District No. 1	\$137,789	High chemical load
WI	Abbotsford, City of	\$107,500	Freezing
WI	Hurley, City of	\$150,000	Freezing
WI	Radisson, Village of	\$500,000	Contamination
WV	Mingo County Public Service District	\$500,000	Flooding
TOTAL:		\$15,163,431	