



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development

World Wide Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>

Ben Higgins, State Director

Release No. 28.08

Contact: Sarah Pursley

Office: (530) 792-5801

Cell: (916) 798-9295

GOLD VILLAGE RECEIVES AID FOR NEW WASTEWATER SYSTEM

Federal and State agencies announce \$2 million for new infrastructure

SMARTVILLE, Calif., August 15, 2008 – USDA Rural Development State Director Ben Higgins was joined today by Congressman Wally Herger and James Maughan of the State Water Resources Control Board in the Gold Village subdivision where they presented a combined \$2 million in funds to Yuba County officials for a new wastewater system.

“The problems faced in Yuba County today are common to many rural towns throughout the state and nation,” said Higgins. “Today’s funds reflect our agency’s ongoing commitment to ensure that communities such as Gold Village have access to safe and effective sanitation services.”

In October 2006 a rupture in Gold Village’s wastewater holding tank resulted in discharge of untreated sewage and ultimately the failure of the facility. Yuba County officials arranged for temporary solutions including hauling sewage to a nearby treatment plant and renting a temporary portable treatment unit. This \$850,000 grant from USDA Rural Development and \$1.05 million loan and grant from the State Water Resources Control Board will permit Yuba County to construct a new wastewater system for the 84 homes in Gold Village.

“The county is very fortunate to have developed the partnerships necessary to fund this project,” said Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chairman Dan Logue. “I am particularly proud of the work that our staff has done since we first began working with the community 18 months ago.”

Funding provided today by USDA Rural Development was made available by the recently-passed 2008 Farm Bill, which provided \$120 million to allow the agency to fund backlogged infrastructure applications. USDA Rural Development California is today announcing two additional awards totaling \$5 million to the City of Loyalton (\$1.3 million) and the Heber Public Utilities District (\$3.7 million) made possible by this one-time Congressional expenditure.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested over \$91 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. As a result, over 1.7 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at one of California’s 18 local USDA Rural Development offices or by visiting <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>.

#

“Committed to the future of rural communities”
United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
430 G Street, Agency 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169
Telephone (530) 792-5801 Fax (530) 792-5837
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>