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Rural Development

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USDA PROVIDES \$4.5 MILLION IN FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT A NEW SEWER SYSTEM IN LIVINGSTON PARISH

LIVINGSTON, April 22, 2003 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development observed Earth Day today by presenting \$4.5 million in Rural Utilities Service loan and grant funds to the Livingston Parish Council to construct a new sewer system in Livingston Parish.

Congressman Richard Baker was on hand with Rural Development State Director Michael B. Taylor to present the \$4.5 million to Dewey Ratcliff, Livingston Parish President.

“This construction will bring sewer service to 268 residential users, three commercial users, and one school—many located on or near the Tickfaw and Blood Rivers,” said Taylor. “The new sewer system will not only improve the quality of life for the people in this area, it will help protect the water quality in these rivers.”

On Earth Day, people around the world focus their efforts on important environmental issues. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development recognizes Earth Day by awarding funding to rural water and wastewater community infrastructure projects across the nation. This year, Rural Development will fund 42 rural Earth Day projects in 29 states, totaling over \$104 million.

“The loan and grant funds provided by Rural Development will make improving the environment achievable and affordable for Livingston Parish,” said Taylor.

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices, located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development’s loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development’s web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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