



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

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## DEKALB COUNTY PWSD #1 RECEIVES USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

A \$450,000 Mock Check was presented to the DeKalb County Public Water Supply District #1 on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at the water district office located in Clarksdale, Missouri. The USDA Rural Development loan funds will be used to construct a 250,000 gallon elevated water storage tank and interconnecting transmission lines in the Southeast portion of the water district. This will improve the water service to approximately 400 existing users in that area. DeKalb County PWSD #1 provides public water services to 2,784 households within the water district boundaries.

"I'm proud to have supported this project," said Congressman Graves. "I am thankful for the excellent working relationship my office has with USDA Rural Development team, and I look forward to our continued work in the future."

"Having an environmentally safe water system is important to the residents and I commend all the partners for their hard work in making these projects a reality, said Branum. "These projects mirror President Bush's initiative and exemplify the Rural Development mission – committed to the future of rural communities."

Branum added that special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Sam Graves for making available federal monies for funding these types of projects that provide essential services for communities.

"We appreciate the both the financial and technical support provided to our District by the USDA Rural Development", said David Ruoff, President of DeKalb County PWSD #1. "This project will improve services to a substantial number of our customers. Thank you to our elected officials, U.S. Senators Christopher Bond and Jim Talent, U.S. Representative Sam Graves, State Senator David Klindt and State Representative Jim Guest."

Kenneth Zelk with Crowley, Wade, Milstead, Inc., located in Independence, Missouri, is the project engineer for the water district.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Environmental Programs are available to eligible entity's to provide financing for public water and sanitary sewer facilities for rural residents. The \$450,000 loan being received by DeKalb County PWSD #1 has a fixed interest rate of 4.125% with a 35 year repayment term.



Those in the photograph are from left to right: Emily Seifers (Field Representative for U.S. Senator Jim Talent), Connie Whitsell (District Clerk for DeKalb County PWSD #1), Neal Miller (Area Director for USDA Rural Development at St. Joseph, MO), David Ruoff (President of Board of Directors for DeKalb County PWSD #1), Jim Guest (Missouri State Representative for District #5), U.S. Representative Sam Graves, Huey Jacobs (District Manager for DeKalb County PWSD #1) and Brad Lager (Missouri State Representative for District #4)

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides funding and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or contacting Stan L. Wolfe, at the St. Joseph Rural Development Area Office, 3915 Oakland Avenue, St. Joseph, MO 64506 or by calling (816) 364 - 3767 (extension #5).

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

**“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”**

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