



American Recovery and  
Reinvestment Act of 2009



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

Contact

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## PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT #17 OF JACKSON COUNTY UPGRADES WATER LINES WITH AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDS

In a ceremony on October 6, 2010, Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, State Director, USDA Rural Development, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Public Water Supply District (PWSD) #17 of Jackson County.

The certificate was presented in recognition of PWSD #17 of Jackson County and their efforts to stimulate the economy by utilizing loan funds of \$417,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). These USDA Rural Development water and waste water funds will be used to upgrade water distribution lines for the district's 853 customers. The eastern Jackson County district purchases treated water from the City of Independence and Tri-County Water Authority. This phase of the multi-phase, long-term capital improvement plan will construct 5300 linear feet of 12" pipeline to improve water pressure for the district's residents.



Pictured front row left to right: Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, Missouri Rural Development State Director; Jason Herman, PWSD #17 Manager; Brook Balentine, Field Representative, Office of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; and Lois East, Area III Specialist, Rural Development. Back row, left to right: Bobby Eades, water district employee; Larry Brown, water district president; Roger Novak, Novak & Birks, CPAs; Charles Bellemere, water district vice president; David Shrout, board member; Vaun Reader, board member; and James Friend, board member.

"I am pleased to hear that with the help of low interest loans from the USDA, the Public Water Supply District #17 in Grain Valley will be able to upgrade its water distribution lines," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "The enhanced water facilities will further ensure that Missouri families in the area are properly served with clean, high quality water."

"I was pleased to learn that Jackson County will receive federal funding for an important water system modernization project. Many communities, particularly rural communities, work very hard and often struggle to make sure that their water systems meet safety standards and comply with

state and federal regulations. This federal loan will help to provide Public Water Supply District #17 with the resources needed to do exactly that,” stated U.S. Representative Ike Skelton.

“This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of an environmentally safe water distribution system for PWSD #17 of Jackson County,” said Dunning. “This project mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Obama’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that so many rural households will benefit from an adequate and dependable water supply system.”

Dunning added, “Appreciation is also extended to our federal elected officials for supporting the USDA Rural Development programs. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

Anyone seeking more information about the water and wastewater programs or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.gov/mo> or by contacting the Clinton Area Office at 1306 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Clinton, MO 64735 or by calling (660)885-5567 ext 5.

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