



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Donna R. Martin

(573) 756-6413 Ext. 5

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS MOCK CHECK TO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 7 OF JEFFERSON COUNTY FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

On Tuesday, December 16, 2008, Missouri Rural Development State Director, Morris Westfall, presented the Public Water Supply District No. 7 of Jefferson County with a \$100,000 Mock Check. Funds will be used for water system upgrades to improve pressures and accommodate growth in the area just east of Pevely. This project is a joint venture with UMB Bank in Kansas City. The total cost of the initial phase was projected at \$2,135,000. This initial phase is part of a ten-year plan to improve water service to the 2,250 customers of the District.

U.S. Senator Kit Bond stated, "Access to clean water is critical to growing rural communities. I commend the USDA and local leadership of Jefferson County for investing in their water distribution system which will help the community to thrive."

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill stated, "There is absolutely no reason that any community should have anything less than up-to-date water systems." Senator McCaskill further stated, "I'm thrilled that this money will help Jefferson County make water system improvements, strengthening the community and making it safer."

U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan said, "A safe and clean water supply is vital to the future growth of Missouri's communities. The hard work of the fine folks of USDA Rural Development is appreciated. It is a pleasure to serve my constituents on the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee where I have made improving Missouri's water system a priority."

Westfall said "Having an environmentally safe and adequate supply of water is important to the residents and I commend all the partners for their hard work in making this project a reality. Financing safe water systems mirrors President Bush's initiative and exemplifies the Rural Development mission – committed to the future of rural communities".



Seated: Gary Peters, Board Chairman, Dale Held, Board Member, Sal Boas, Board Member, Lee Roy McNail, Member

Second row: Kevin Wolff, District Engineer, Crystal Mills, Clerk, Michelle Giffin, Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director, Bob Burns, Representative from Senator McCaskill's office

Third row: Terry Casteel, Serviceman, Harold French, Serviceman, Joyce Twiggs, Manager, Donna Martin, Area Specialist, T.C. Powers, Jr., Representative for Congressman Carnahan's office, Stanley D. Schnaare, District Attorney, Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director

District Chairman, Gary Peters, added “Public Water Supply District #7 appreciates the funds provided by USDA for our first phase of water line improvements. USDA made this such an efficient transaction that we look forward to working with them on other projects in the future.”

Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Donna R. Martin, Area Specialist, at the Farmington Area Office of USDA Rural Development at 812 Progress Drive, Farmington, MO 63640 or by calling 573-756-6413, ext. 119.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

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

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).