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# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS MOCK CHECK TO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF MADISON COUNTY FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

On Tuesday, December 16, 2008, Missouri Rural Development State Director, Morris Westfall, presented the Public Water Supply District No. 1 of Madison County with a \$2,810,800 Mock Check. Funds will be used for water system upgrades to improve quality of water, improve pressures and accommodate growth in the area just north and east of the City of Fredericktown. This area covers the area known as the North System. This initial phase is the first part of a two phase plan to improve water service to the customers of the District.

U.S. Senator Kit Bond stated, "The Madison County water system upgrades will provide the local community with better infrastructure and much needed upgrades. I commend Madison County's local leaders and the USDA for their hard work and dedication on this project."

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said, "All Missourians deserve access to up-to-date water systems." Senator McCaskill continued, "I'm thankful that these federal grant funds will enable Madison County update its North water system and provide its residents with clean and safe water."

U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson said, "Rural Development is a driving force in the development and investment in our rural Missouri communities. This project will greatly contribute to the quality of life, public safety, and economic infrastructure throughout the region. I'm grateful for their strong partnerships with our state and local leaders, and I appreciate the advocacy of our congressional delegation for the projects USDA Rural Development supports."

Westfall said "Having an environmentally safe and adequate supply of water is important to the customers and I commend all 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".



Pictured: Raymond Skaggs, District President, Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director, Donna Martin, Area Specialist, Kevin Hinkebein, Area Specialist, Dora Rosa, Board Secretary, Frank Taylor, Taylor Engineering, Morris Westfall, Area Director, Bill DeSpain, Service Manager, Tim Robbs, District Engineer

**District President, Raymond Skaggs, added “We greatly appreciate this support from the USDA Rural Development. The financial assistance will help the water district upgrade the aging infrastructure and improve the service provided to the county residents”.**

**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.**

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