



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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## STIMULUS FUNDS AWARDED FOR NEW EMMONS COUNTY WATER TREATMENT PLANT

*USDA Rural Development funds will bring water to Emmons, Logan and McIntosh Counties and surrounding areas*

**LINTON, N.D.**, August 30, 2010 – USDA Rural Development State Director Jasper Schneider, U.S. Congressman Earl Pomeroy, South Central Regional Water District Board Members, and other officials gather today on the banks of the Missouri River for a ground breaking ceremony for the new Emmons County Water Treatment Plant.

“Rural communities are an important part of North Dakota’s fabric and investments in infrastructure will allow them to continue to grow, thrive and attract businesses,” said Schneider. “Not only will this project create jobs for local contractors, it will also improve the quality of life in America not just now, but for generations to come.”

Today’s event is part of a two-phase plan to bring water to Emmons, Logan and McIntosh Counties, State Line Water Cooperative, and surrounding areas.



*The crowd listens to speakers prior to the ground breaking of the Emmons County Water Treatment Plant.*



Phase I involves building the tube intake along the Missouri River at Beaver Bay into Lake Oahe, constructing a 2.5 million gallon per day water treatment plant, building a 500,000-gallon storage reservoir, and laying 21 miles of transmission lines. Phase II will include laying 275 miles of transmission lines, the building of two booster stations, the purchase and installation of bulk user meters and telemetry equipment, and the building of a 200,000-gallon storage reservoir.

*Ground Breaking: Left to right: Greg Larson, SCWD Board of Directors, Jim Vander Vorst, State Line Water Cooperative, Kathleen Schneider, U.S. Senator Kent Conrad’s representative; Marion Houn, U.S. Senator Bryon Dorgan’s representative; Eric Volk, ND Rural Water Systems Association; Jasper Schneider, USDA Rural Development State Director, Dave Koland, Executive Director of Garrison Diversion Conservancy District 11; Joe LaFave, SCWD Board President; Congressman Earl Pomeroy; Doug Neibauer, Executive Director SCWD; Harley Swenson, ND State Water Commission; Matt Burthold, USDA Rural Development Business Program Specialist; and Glenn McCrory, Emmons County Water Resource Board.*

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The cost for both phases is estimated at \$29,259,000 leveraged with funds of \$7,364.750 through USDA Rural Development's Water and Environment Program (WEP) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and a grant for \$21,894,250, of which \$13,094,250 in Phase I is ARRA recovery act funds, through the Garrison Diversion Conservancy Municipal Rural and Industrial.

"South Central Regional Water District is very pleased to have the funding available through USDA Rural Development to complete the construction of Phase I and Phase II which will provide quality water service to the communities of Linton, Strasburg, Hague and State Line Rural Water Cooperative," said Doug Neibauer, South Central Regional Water District Executive Director.

"The federal stimulus money helped several projects that we were able to bundle together and place in one package," said Neibauer.

Construction will start next week on the direct intake and the main transmission line. Both phases are estimated to be completed by the end of 2012. When completed, South Central Regional Water District will provide water service to 380 new customers who are located throughout the Counties of Emmons, Logan and McIntosh, including the communities of Linton, Hague Strasburg, and State Line Water Cooperative.

"In addition to today's announcement, I am pleased to announce that with today's project, North Dakota surpassed the \$400 million lending milestone in the Water and Environment Program (WEP) since its inception in 1963," continued Schneider.

Burleigh Water Users Cooperative organized in the early 1970s as Burleigh Water Users Cooperative. As the demand for quality water increased in south central North Dakota, they later reorganized in 2002 to South Central Regional Water District. The water company first brought rural services to the Bismarck area, and now has 4,440 rural subscribers, not counting the proposed extension.

In Fiscal Year 2009, USDA Rural Development provided \$56.4 million in housing programs, \$79.7 million in business and community programs, and \$647.1 million in electric programs to North Dakota citizens.

Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA Rural Development's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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