



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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CONGRESSMAN SMITH HELPS USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT DELIVER FUNDS THAT WILL ENSURE QUALITY WATER FOR SUTHERLAND RESIDENTS

SUTHERLAND, Neb., October 23, 2008 – United States Congressman Adrian Smith and USDA Rural Development Nebraska State Director Scot Blehm presented a ceremonial check today to the Village of Sutherland for \$1,736,000. The funds will develop a new well field to provide a safe, clean source of potable drinking water for Sutherland residents.

“Nebraska has long been known as the home of the Good Life,” Smith said. “The future of our rural communities will be formed by the hard work and innovation of our community leaders. This project will help strengthen the Village of Sutherland, and I commend all involved for their efforts to improve Nebraska.”

Sutherland’s wells contain high nitrate levels. Being located in close proximity to commercial business operations, the wells raise increased community concern regarding water quality. The new well field will be located outside the corporate limits of the Village with the wells drilled at a depth that will resolve the Village’s water concerns.

“Rural Development is pleased to assist the Village of Sutherland with the funding they needed to provide safe and quality water to their residents,” stated Blehm. “USDA Rural Development is committed to delivering the funding needed to help rural communities to succeed and remain strong. We are pleased to report a record year in project funding which means more dollars pumped into Nebraska to keep its’ rural communities viable.”

Loan terms are 40 years at 4.75 percent interest. A Community Development Block Grant of \$250,000 comprised the balance of the funding needed.

In Fiscal Year 2008, USDA Rural Development delivered more than \$189.8 million to rural Nebraska. Housing funds delivered totaled \$70.6 million, community facilities \$11 million, utilities \$22.4 million, business \$18.9 million, telecommunications \$51.3 million and electric \$15.6 million.

Contact USDA Rural Development (402) 437-5551, toll free 800-670-6553, or (402) 437-5093 (TDY).

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