



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Indiana - Rural Utilities Services

Strategic Partners

Loan & Grants Fund Community Wastewater System

Outline Of Need:

Residents of the small community of Macy, Indiana relied on individual septic tanks for sewage treatment. Many of these septic systems were failing. Due to the soil types and small lot sizes, replacing the septic systems was not an option. These failed systems resulted in excessive E-coli counts in the area drainage ditch causing a health and safety risk to the community.

How Rural Development Helped:

As a small, very low income rural community Macy could not financially support a treatment plant for the wastewater system that was needed to address the E-coli levels in the ditch. Professional services were contracted to explore the best affordable option for the small community. A neighboring community had a treatment plant that had the capacity to take on additional waste.

A partnership of \$1,391,000 in grant funding from Rural Development and the Indiana Office of



Town of Macy, IN

Community and Rural Affairs, and a \$125,000 Rural Development loan, allowed this community to build a wastewater collection system. This new system will transport the waste to a neighboring community for treatment.

The Results:

This community relies on private wells for drinking water, which were at risk of contamination from the failing septic systems. Working together and utilizing strategic partners in funding and wastewater treatment allowed a small, very low income community to provide wastewater services to its 88 homes and small businesses. This will alleviate a situation that could have become a serious health and safety issue.

Two local communities created an partnership to work together to benefit each other. The Town of Macy needed a way to afford a wastewater collection system for its community and Nyona/South Mud Lake Conservancy District had capacity to accept more waste for treatment. Federal and State Agencies were able to come together for funding to assist a community with its utilities needs. At least 20 jobs were created or saved with this project.

Fast Facts

Program: Water and Environmental Program

Investment: \$1,516,000 Loan and Grant

Partners: Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs
(\$308,630 Grant);
Nyona/South Mud Lake (for treatment)

Demographics: Rural Population of 248

Impact:

- 88 homes and small businesses served.
- Eliminate health and safety risk.
- 20 jobs created or saved.

April 2011