



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 28, 2009

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Brown County Project Receives Grant Selection From USDA Rural Development *Rural Energy for America Program* *Kansas Energy Efficiency Project Announced*

Manhattan – USDA Rural Development Area Director Richard K. Boyles, along with Area Specialist Larry D. Holz of the Manhattan Area Office, congratulated Henry Farms of Brown County, Inc. for being selected to receive a \$33,717 loan and \$33,717 grant to make energy efficiency improvements in Northeast Kansas. The funds are administered through USDA Rural Development's *Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)* which was established in the 2008 Farm Bill and is not part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

USDA Rural Development funding will be combined with an applicant contribution of \$67,435. Funding is contingent upon the recipient meeting the conditions of the grant agreement.

Area Specialist Larry D. Holz commented, "It has been a delight working with this applicant and we look forward to helping them complete this project. The amounts saved by the energy efficiency improvements are what the program is all about...a greener America."

The energy efficiency project will include replacing the existing grain dryer that is inefficient by today's standards.

The new dryer will greatly aid efficiency and will also allow an earlier harvest, preserving higher yields for the farm. In addition, maintenance costs will be lower enhancing the economic benefits of the project.

Other improvements include grain transfer equipment, cooling equipment, and electrical upgrades.

Twenty-three renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in Kansas were recently announced by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, for an aggregate total of \$1,320,373 in loans and grants, with leveraged funds of \$1,578,302.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure.

For additional information regarding all USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Agency at 785-271-2700 or visit the Agency's Kansas website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks

USDA Rural Development – Committed to the future of rural communities.

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