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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AWARDED IN ST. LANDRY PARISH Congressman Charles Boustany and State Director Clyde Holloway Present Funds for New 911 Building and Water System Improvements

OPELOUSAS, August 20, 2007 – Congressman Charles Boustany joined USDA Rural Development State Director Clyde Holloway today in Opelousas to present almost \$3 million in federal funding for St. Landry Parish projects.

Over \$2.3 million in USDA Rural Development loan funds were presented to the St. Landry Parish Communications District to construct a new 911 building to house St. Landry Parish Communications District emergency response workers. The new 7,073 square foot building will include offices, conference rooms, and work areas.

\$517,000 in USDA Rural Development loan funds were presented to the Plaisance Water System, Inc., to repair and recoat the water system's 500,000-gallon elevated water tank—and install lights in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements.

“Rural Development funding is targeted to rural communities—to ensure rural residents enjoy the same quality of life as their urban neighbors,” said Holloway. “The funds we are presenting today will ensure St. Landry Parish residents continue to have access to 911 emergency services, and Plaisance residents continue to enjoy clean, safe drinking water.”

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The USDA Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting USDA Rural Development's web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>. USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender, provider, and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9140.

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