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FEDERAL FUNDING PRESENTED IN WISNER AND HARRISONBURG Congressman Rodney Alexander and State Director Clyde Holloway Present Funding to South Bayou Macon Water System and Village of Harrisonburg

WISNER and HARRISONBURG, August 26, 2008 – Congressman Rodney Alexander and USDA Rural Development State Director Clyde Holloway visited Franklin and Catahoula Parishes today to present federal funding for two important environmental projects.

In Wisner, \$951,000 in USDA Rural Development loan funds and \$651,730 in USDA Rural Development grant funds were presented to the South Bayou Macon Water System, Inc., to replace a water well, construct a water treatment facility, construct new distribution lines, and extend the water system to serve 40 new customers.

In Harrisonburg, \$156,000 in USDA Rural Development loan funds were presented to the Village of Harrisonburg to convert existing sewage ponds to aerated lagoons. These improvements will eliminate discharge of partially treated wastewater into ditches in the area.

“Nothing is more important to a community than good, clean drinking water or adequate sewage disposal,” said Holloway. “This federal funding will ensure users of these systems enjoy continued—and improved—delivery of these basics services.”

Both projects were funded through USDA Rural Development’s water and waste loan and grant program. Public bodies, non-profit organizations, and recognized tribes may qualify for assistance through this program for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas.

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, telephone (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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