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**ABBIGATOR RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT FOR  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS  
USDA Rural Development State Director Clyde Holloway  
Presents \$49,934 to Abbeville Company**

ABBEVILLE, November 16, 2007 – State Director Clyde Holloway presented \$49,934 in USDA Rural Development grant funds to Abbigator, Inc., to install an energy-efficient water pump and heating system for their alligator production facility.

“Our renewable energy/energy efficiency program helps farmers, ranchers, and small businesses reduce energy costs,” said Holloway. “Abbigator expects to reduce their current energy usage by 39 percent as a result of these improvements.”

The grant was awarded through USDA’s Section 9006 Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program. It provides financial assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to install renewable energy generation systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The USDA Rural Development State Office is located in Alexandria, and Area Offices are located in Monroe, Natchitoches, Lafayette, and Amite. Further information on USDA Rural Development’s loan and grant programs may be obtained by visiting USDA Rural Development’s web site at:  
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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