



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES A \$7,865 GRANT TO THE CITY OF CLIFTON HILL

On October 22, 2008, USDA Rural Development State Director Morris Westfall presented the City of Clifton Hill with a mock check for \$7,865. The funds will be used towards the purchase of a new early storm warning siren system for the City of Clifton Hill.

“This year alone we have seen how much damage Missouri storms can cause,” U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. “Thanks to these federal funds, the residents of Clifton Hill will have more time to seek shelter and safety in cases of severe weather.”

“Too often in rural Missouri we see the consequences of severe storms,” Congressman Kenny Hulshof said. “These sirens are another tool that can be used to help prevent loss of life during the natural disasters we’ve seen much too often over the last few years. I commend Clifton Hill officials and USDA Rural Development for partnering on this essential project. This funding represents yet another great example of how our tax dollars sent to Washington, D.C., come back to make a positive impact in Missouri.”

“This early storm warning siren system is a big benefit to the community and something we have needed for a long time,” said Clifton Hill Mayor Oliver Penton. “The USDA grant made this project possible for the City.”

“This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities,” said Morris Westfall State Director for USDA Rural Development. “Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senator “Kit” Bond and Claire McCaskill plus U.S. Representative Kenny Hulshof for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project for the City of Clifton Hill.”



Included in the photo are USDA State Director Morris Westfall; Steven Gerrish of USDA Rural Development; Clifton Hill Mayor Oliver Penton; Lona Wiess representative of US Senator Claire McCaskill's office; State Senator Chuck Graham; Tim Rich representative of of Congressman Kenny Hulshof's office; then Randy Asbury and Susan Carter, county commissioners for Randolph County, and citizens of Clifton Hill.

USDA funds through the Community Facilities Grant program will allow the City of Clifton Hill to purchase the new early storm warning siren system. The siren system cost is \$14,300 and the City of Clifton Hill is providing an additional \$6,435 in funding to purchase the system.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Steven Gerrish, at the Moberly Rural Development office, 2995 County Road 1325, Moberly, MO 65270 or call the office at 660-263-7400 ext. 4.

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