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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES A \$5,300 GRANT TO THE CITY OF NEW CAMBRIA

U. S. Congressman Kenny Hulshof joined Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, in New Cambria on Thursday, September 13, 2007, to present the City of New Cambria with a mock check for \$5,300. The funds will be used towards the purchase and installation of a new storm warning siren system for the City of New Cambria.

USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant program is funding a portion of the weather siren purchase and installation. Other key partners in the purchase and installation of the siren system were the City of New Cambria (\$5,475), New Cambria Volunteer Fire Department (\$500), New Cambria Chamber of Commerce (\$1,000) and some donations from the community.



Pictured left to right: Steven Gerrish, USDA Rural Development; Tom Shively, State Representative; Bob Maddox, New Cambria City council member; Larry Duncan, Bank of New Cambria and Fire Department volunteer; Doris Kitchen, President of the Chamber of Commerce; Mary Ellen Waycoff, Minister of the Macon County Larger Parish; Congressman Kenny Hulshof; Mike Kendall, Macon County 911; Linda Maddox, Bank of New Cambria; Ron Garber, Superintendent of New Cambria school; Cathy Bocke, Past President of the Chamber of Commerce; Greg Branum, USDA Rural Development State Director; Llona Wiess, Representative of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill's office; Allen Wyatt, Macon County Presiding Commissioner; and David James, the Chairman of the New Cambria Bank board.

“Emergency readiness is key to preventing loss of life and property,” U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. “This grant will help New Cambria be prepared in the future.”

“In recent years, we have seen the damage rendered by tornadoes that have ripped through communities in northeast Missouri,” Hulshof stated. “The key to saving lives is advance warning of a coming storm. This funding provides a system that will help give that notification to the people of New Cambria. I’m pleased that USDA recognizes the importance of having this siren system in place.”

“Early warning of tornadoes helps to protect lives,” stated Branum. “The agency is proud to have participated in funding this equipment to alert New Cambria citizens of severe weather.”

“This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities,” Branum added. “Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

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 by contacting 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.

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

**“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”**

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