



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
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RURAL DEVELOPMENT TARGET OF USDA LOANS AND GRANTS

Bismarck, April 10, 2008—The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Development has awarded \$716,800 in grants and \$1.612 million in loans to five North Dakota businesses.

These Rural Development funds will be used to provide grants and loans to rural utilities program borrowers to help provide economic development within a community.

“This money will allow rural North Dakota businesses to build and expand their facilities, as well as create new jobs and retain workers,” State Director Clare Carlson said.

North Central Electric Cooperative in Bottineau is receiving a \$300,000 grant. The funds will be used to assist the all volunteer Bottineau Ambulance Service to construct a new ambulance garage which will include a training room and equipment storage room.

Dakota Valley Electric Cooperative in Milnor is receiving an \$116,800 grant. The money will be used to assist the all volunteer Dwight Rural Fire Protection District construct a new fire truck storage bay, replace a roof on its fire hall, and drill a new well to provide a suitable water source to fill their tanker truck.

Dakota Valley Electric Cooperative in Milnor is receiving a \$300,000 grant and a \$132,000 loan. The money will be used to assist Dr. Rupkumar Nagala and Dr. Vani Nagala construct a building which will be leased to DaVita, a provider of kidney dialysis treatment services. This project will create four new jobs.

KEM Electric Cooperative in Linton is receiving a \$740,000 loan. The funds will be used to assist Wishek Manufacturing, LLC construct a new building as part of their manufacturing expansion project resulting in 14 new jobs and the retention of 37 jobs.

Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative in Williston is receiving a \$740,000 loan. The funds will help Dakota Quality Grain, LLC construct a 20,500 ton fertilizer plant and 639,400 bushel grain terminal near Ross, ND. The project will create five new jobs.

In Fiscal Year 2007, USDA Rural Development provided over **\$298.5 million** in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested more than \$76.8 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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