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## AGRICULTURE SECRETARY VILSACK ANNOUNCES \$172.5 MILLION FOR RURAL WATER PROJECTS

*Recovery Act Funds Will Help Improve Infrastructure Across Rural America*

WASHINGTON, September 3, 2009 — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the selection of \$172.5 million in water and environmental projects that are being funded immediately through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The projects will help provide safe drinking water and improved wastewater treatment for rural communities in 24 states. To date, USDA has announced \$1.64 billion for water and environmental project loans and grants, benefiting people throughout the country.

“The Recovery Act is putting people to work right now while making our communities safer and improving the quality of life for many years to come,” Vilsack said. “The 39 ARRA water and wastewater projects we are announcing today support the Obama administration’s goal to rebuild and revitalize the nation’s rural infrastructure.”

**For example, the City of Mayville, N.D., will receive a \$934,000 loan and a \$1,936,860 grant to upgrade and expand the City’s existing water treatment plant to meet their obligations of the Joint Powers Agreement with Traill Rural Water District. The plant capacity will increase to 800 gallons per minute. The new treatment process will be thru nano-filtration, and the water source will come from the Page Aquifer thru wells. The project will deliver a reliable source of drinking water to the users in the cities of Mayville and Portland.**

The City of Emmonak, Alaska, will receive a \$3.2 million loan and a \$1.4 million grant to protect the community’s ground water by constructing a new Class III landfill facility. The existing landfill is an undeveloped, unpermitted open dump on a Yukon River floodplain. Because the access is unrestricted, children often play among the trash and animals feed on it, creating a health hazard. Trash regularly falls into the Yukon River, and when the area floods, concentrated waste leaches into the ground. With the loan and grant money, the city will ensure the safety of its residents and of the surrounding ecosystem.

The City of Shelton, Wash., will receive a \$20.3 million loan and an \$8.4 million grant to upgrade two major sewer facilities and meet Washington State Department of Ecology sanitary standards. The current equipment is very old and fails often. The equipment upgrades will improve the efficiency of the city’s sewer systems and lead to a more consistent nitrogen discharge that will benefit the shellfish population and revitalize the local shellfish aquaculture industry.

The AARA funding announced today is being administered by USDA Rural Development's Water and Environmental Program program. The program provides loans and grants to ensure that the necessary investments are made in water and wastewater infrastructure to deliver safe drinking water and protect the environment in rural areas.

More information about USDA Rural Development can be found at [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov). Funding of individual recipients is contingent upon their meeting the terms of the loan or grant agreement.

Below is a complete list of award recipients, by state:

Alaska:

City of Emmonak - \$3,273,500 grant

Arizona:

City of Somerton - \$2,147,000 loan and \$2,596,063 grant

Delaware:

Sussex County Council - \$90,000 loan and \$566,000 grant

Georgia:

City of Port Wentworth - \$7,592,300 loan

Indiana:

Town of Macy - \$514,000 loan and \$1,539,700 grant

Town of Nashville - \$2,545,000 loan and \$752,700 grant

Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District - \$8,207,000 loan

Kansas:

City of Lakin - \$3,129,000 loan and \$1,248,000 grant

City of Fall River - \$268,000 loan and \$205,000 grant

City of Oswego - \$2,487,000 loan and \$2,475,000 grant

City of St. George - \$1,350,000 loan and \$200,000 grant

Kentucky:

City of Danville - \$600,000 loan and \$474,000 grant

Edmonson County Water District - \$700,000 loan and \$295,000 grant

Louisiana:

Hagewood Water System, Inc. - \$900,000 loan and \$1,280,500 grant

Maryland:

Mayor and Council of Berlin - \$5,988,000 loan and \$5,828,217 grant

Town of Lonaconing - \$683,000 loan and \$666,480 grant

Worcester County Commissioners: Mystic Harbor - \$5,062,000 loan and \$3,738,000 grant

Maine:

Livermore Falls Water District - \$888,000 loan and \$712,000 grant

Minnesota:

City of Iron Junction - \$281,000 loan and \$410,000 grant

Missouri:

Randolph County PWSD #1 - \$1,084,000 loan and \$670,000 grant

North Dakota:

City of Mayville - \$934,000 loan and \$1,936,860 grant

New Jersey:

City of North Wildwood - \$2,238,000 loan and \$1,412,000 grant

New York:

Village of Delhi - \$3,169,000 loan and \$1,000,000 grant

Town of Sullivan - \$100,000 loan and \$6,093,000 grant

Ohio:

Richmond Dale Sewer District - \$637,000 loan and \$556,000 grant

Oklahoma:

McCurtain County RWD #6 - \$3,046,000 loan and \$9,337,650 grant

South Carolina:

Alligator Rural Water and Sewer Co., Inc. - \$4,551,000 loan and \$4,830,000 grant

City of Lake City - \$4,161,300 loan

South Dakota:

City of Estelline - \$352,000 loan and \$305,000 grant

City of Webster - \$2,156,000 loan and \$1,496,000 grant

Clark Rural Water System - \$4,958,000 loan and \$2,862,000 grant

Town of Canova - \$38,000 loan and \$62,000 grant

Whitewood - \$295,000 loan

Texas:

City of Winters - \$1,495,000 loan and \$1,300,800 grant

Virginia:

Grayson County - \$290,000 loan and \$767,000 grant

Washington County Service Authority - \$10,000,000 loan

Washington:

City of Shelton - \$20,379,000 loan and \$8,478,000 grant

West Virginia:

Crum Public Service District - \$1,865,000 loan and \$2,746,000 grant

Town of Junior - \$220,000 and \$540,000 grant

President Obama signed The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 into law on Feb. 17, 2009. It is designed to jumpstart the nation's economy, create or save millions of jobs and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Act includes measures to modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief and protect those in greatest need.

More information about USDA's Recovery Act efforts is available at [www.usda.gov/recovery](http://www.usda.gov/recovery). More information about the Federal government's efforts on the Recovery Act is available at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).

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