

Contact: Jane Grant, Bismarck  
(800) 582-7584 Ext. 2037

## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS GRANT TO CONSOLIDATED TELCOM

**Bowman, November 15, 2007.** . . . USDA Rural Development State Director Clare Carlson today, during a dedication and recognition ceremony, presented a ceremonial check representing a matching grant for \$54,767 to Consolidated Telcom of Dickinson. The grant funds are made available through Rural Development's Rural Utility Program.

The funds were used to purchase and install a 1000-watt dual weather radio transmitter, antenna, and backup generator at Scranton, Bowman County, North Dakota. Consolidated Telcom also provides the tower facilities for this system.



“Each year, thousands of people die or lose property because they did not know soon enough about hazards, disasters, or emergencies,” said Carlson. “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio operates an all hazard early warning system that alerts people, in the transmission area, of approaching dangerous

weather and other non-weather emergency messages. Thanks to Consolidated Telcom for being the driving force behind getting this new transmitter on line, to the NOAA National Weather Service for the programming and broadcast, and to all the communities for their support.”

The Scranton transmitter is broadcasting live 24-hour weather source on frequency 162.525 MHz (megahertz) serving parts of Bowman, Slope, Hettinger, and Adams counties in North Dakota and parts of Perkins and Harding counties in South Dakota.

In Fiscal Year 2007, USDA Rural Development provided over **\$66.6 million** in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens.

USDA Rural Development is the lead federal entity for rural economic and community development needs. It administers financial and technical assistance through a network of state

---

Committed to the future of rural communities.

Rural Development offices, various non-profit and educational institutional partners, and its national office.

Further information on these and other rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>