

USDA/Rural Development

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News Release

TX-124.03

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE CITY OF RANGER

Brownwood, Texas, September 25, 2003 — Bryan Daniel, state director, Texas USDA Rural Development announced today that the City of Ranger, Eastland County, Texas received a \$815,000 loan through the agency's Community Programs Water and Waste Loan and Grant program. The effort is part of USDA's national program to help provide rural areas with safe, dependable water and modern sewage systems.

"One of the goals of USDA Rural Development is to provide water and wastewater treatment programs that target public health benefits and provide economic opportunities to America's rural communities," said Daniel. "Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance their quality of life."

The funds will be used to make improvements to the existing City water distribution system. Funds will be used to increase line sizes and other water line construction, which will improve water quality as well as increase the water pressure. Two new storage tanks will be built and one existing tank will be torn down. The new storage tanks will end the need for four existing pump stations. A new hydro-pneumatic pump station will be added to replace the four abandoned pump stations. A new transmission line will be added to portions of the City. The population served by the City of Ranger is 22,557.

In Fiscal Year 2002, \$91.7 million of loan and grant assistance was infused into 61 projects and 106,000 rural Texas households. USDA Rural Development's water and wastewater program is designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operated on a nonprofit basis, and Indian tribes, that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms, are eligible for assistance.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the USDA, Rural Development Office in Brownwood, TX at 2608 Highway 377 South, Suite A, or call 325/643-1585 extension 4 or fax to 325/646-8630.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410. #

The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

**For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.**