



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR LAS PAMPAS WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

PRESIDIO, TEXAS, August 18, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that Las Pampas Water Supply Corporation has been awarded \$915,428 through the agency's Water and Waste Disposal Section 306C Grant Program. The proposed funding will construct a 29,000 gallon storage tank, install solar powered controls, purchase a generator and propane tank, and install 52,800 linear feet of distribution lines. To highlight this funding, a ceremonial check will be presented to Charlotte Ishikawa, Las Pampas Water Supply Corporation President. The presentation will take place during a luncheon being held on Thursday, August 18, 2005, at noon, located in Rooney Park, in the Community Hall, Hwy. 285 South, Fort Stockton, Texas.

“The newly developing Las Pampas Water Supply Corporation will offer peace of mind for the families connecting to the system,” said Daniel. “Projects such as this one in Presidio County will help make the environment cleaner and protect the public health for local residents.”

These rural families have been trying for 10 years to develop a public water system, but due to limited resources and the location, this has not been possible. They have been hauling in water from the City of Presidio using containers for collection and storage. A major concern is that some of the containers are not safe and pose a significant threat for water-borne diseases. The proposed project will bring first time service to the 26 families who will utilize to the system and will safely supply their water needs.

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs provide funding for construction, improvement, or expansion of water and waste disposal systems, telecommunication and education resources, and necessary community facilities.

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 operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Fort Stockton Local Office at 432-336-7585, Ext. 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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