



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR THE CITY OF COTULLA

COTULLA, TEXAS, October 11, 2005 - Bryan Daniel, State Director, Texas USDA Rural Development today announced that the City of Cotulla received a \$1,124,293 grant through the agency's Water and Waste Disposal 306c Colonia 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 the USDA Rural Development utility program is to help colonias obtain safe, clean drinking water,” said Daniel. “Nothing is more basic than helping colonia residents by improving their drinking water infrastructure.”

The funds will be used to bring first-time sewer service to Atilano Gonzales, Jimenez, and Mustang Creek subdivisions located outside the city. The project will connect 53 residences to the existing wastewater collection system.

USDA Rural Development's Colonia grant program is designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to colonias' throughout Texas. Texas USDA Rural Development is committed to increase program outreach and activities in the colonias' by collaborating with Federal and State agencies, non-profit organizations and individuals in Texas.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the USDA Rural Development local service center in Hebbbronville at (361) 527-3253, Ext. 4 or visit our website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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