



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR ORANGEFIELD WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

ORANGEFIELD, TEXAS, June 20, 2006-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today announced Orangefield Water Supply Corporation has been selected to receive \$3,622,300 through the USDA Rural Development Community Program Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The funding will be used to construct a new vacuum station collection system and a Wastewater Treatment Plant. In September 2005, Hurricane Rita caused extensive damage to individual septic tank systems and made the area eligible to receive Hurricane Disaster Assistance under the Defense Appropriations Act of 2006.

“The USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Programs target public health benefits and economic opportunities in America’s rural communities,” said Daniel. “Projects such as this one in Orangefield will help make the environment cleaner and protect the public health for local residents.”

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$80.7 million of loan and grant assistance was distributed throughout rural Texas to 315,249 households. The USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal 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 was created in 1994 to serve Texas’ more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Angleton Local Office at (979) 849-5251, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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