



It may not directly be the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, (abbreviated ARRA), which is the economic stimulus package passed by Congress last February. But, Public Wholesale Water District No. 20, located just a few miles north of Sedan, Kansas in southeast Kansas, has received a big financial boost as the result of that legislation. PWWSD 20 has been awarded funding of \$6.5 million in new loan and loan forgiveness (grant) from USDA Rural Development. The district began its Phase 3 expansion of the water district in August 2009.

USDA Rural Development was able to fund this project, along with others, largely due to the influx of the ARRA funds. Gary Smith, Director of Community and Business Programs at USDA Rural Development in Topeka, says that funding for PWWSD 20 originated with the 2008 funding allocations. While some projects will not be able to be funded under the ARRA funds but could be funded under the normally allocated funding for the year, Smith says that the same rules apply for the ARRA funding as did before with the addition of the "Buy American" and the "Davis-Bacon Act". The Buy American Act (BAA – 41 U.S.C. & 10a-10d) was passed in 1933 by Congress. The Act required the U.S. Government to prefer U.S.-made products in its purchases. Other pieces of federal legislation extend similar requirements to third-party purchases that utilize federal funds. The Davis-Bacon

Act of 1931 is a federal law that established the requirement for paying prevailing wages on public works projects. Certainly, time is of the essence to submit your application for ARRA funding.

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PWWSD 20's project

In February 2006, PWWSD 20 started producing water at a rate of 300 gpm and providing water to the cities of Sedan, Peru and Chautauqua as well as Chautauqua RWD 1 and Chautauqua RWD 3. The total project cost was approximately \$4.7 million. The project consisted of the treatment plant and a 12-inch PVC main line going to the city of Sedan.

Phase 2 of the district's growth was approximately a \$3.15 million loan and grant project which added a new water storage tank, a new rechlorination station, pump station and main lines going to the city of Cedar Vale and Chautauqua RWD 2 and RWD 3.

James Rainbolt, General Manager of the district, reports that Phase 3 will consist of a new 12-inch PVC transmission line going to the city of Moline directly from the treatment plant and from there the district will be able to provide water to the city of Moline, Elk RWD 1 and the city of Grenola. Additional master meters will be installed for Chautauqua RWD 3 and RWD 4 along with a new 200,000-gallon elevated water storage tank. A new pipeline with a master meter will also be installed for



Creating a little dust as it cuts its way through some rock, this 1455 Vermeer trencher has little trouble cutting through. PWWSD 20 is adding new 8-inch, 6-inch and some 4-inch PVC lines; Nowak Construction Company, Inc. of Goddard, Kansas is the contractor for the pipeline

Montgomery Cons. RWD 1. PWWSD 20 will also be adding new 8-inch, 6-inch and some 4-inch PVC lines in this project. Nowak Construction Company, Inc. of Goddard, Kansas is the contractor for the pipeline. David Stareck, Project Superintendent for this part of the project said that he had “four crews, consisting of 25 employees working and that this project had created three new jobs so far”.

Construction started on September 16 at the treatment plant for the upgrades that will take place there. Utility Contractors Inc. of Wichita, Kansas is the contractor for the treatment plant work. Projects at the plant will consist of a new 100,000-gallon clearwell, a new solids contact unit, a new filter building that will consist of two new dual media filters, new VFDs, a new upgrade to the chlorine dioxide system and changing the chlorine feed locations to help meet regulatory requirements. A new 20-foot by 30-foot storage building will be constructed for pipe storage and repair parts as well as some of the small pieces of equipment the district has. Engineering for this project is from Professional Engineering Consultates, (PEC), of Wichita, Kansas. Rod Young and Eric Broce are the engineers for the project.

Even though the wholesale district did not directly receive some of the ARRA funding for this project, funding the district did receive was a result of the ARRA dollars coming to USDA Rural Development in Kansas. In any case, the Public Wholesale is grateful for the funding, regardless of the origin of the funding.

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