



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

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WIFA Announces Stimulus Funds Part of \$10 Million Loan to Pima County for Wastewater System Improvements

PHOENIX (April 15, 2009) –The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona announced today approval of its first round of loans from federal stimulus money, including part of a \$10 million loan to the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department for improvements to its wastewater system.

The project will help Pima County meet regulatory requirements for nitrogen levels in discharged wastewater. It includes upgrading and expanding the Ina Road wastewater facility; building a new water reclamation facility to replace the aging Roger Road site, which will be decommissioned; and building a connection between the two plants to optimize their capacity and flow.

The new connection will include about 5 miles of pipe and will be able to handle a flow of 72 million gallons a day. Total cost of the project, scheduled for completion by 2020, is \$31 million.

“This funding will ensure that the residents of Pima County will see much-needed improvements to aging wastewater treatment systems,” said Patrick J. Cunningham, WIFA’s acting board director. “We are pleased to make this loan to help Pima County make the most of Arizona’s precious water resources and to work Pima County residents.”

WIFA is receiving stimulus funding from the U.S Environmental Protection Agency-American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The ARRA funding is providing significant savings on clean and drinking water infrastructure projects for many municipalities and private drinking water companies in Arizona that are able to start construction by June 17, 2009 or have signed contracts for construction by Feb. 17, 2010.

Stimulus – Pima

2 – 2 – 2

WIFA maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. For more information, please visit WIFA's Web site at www.azwifa.gov.