



United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
San Juan, PR

## NEWS RELEASE

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### USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATE IN THE INAUGURATION OF A WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LARES WITH \$16,520,000 IN LOANS AND GRANTS

San Juan, Puerto Rico, September 9, 2009 – José Otero-García, Puerto Rico State Director, announced the inauguration of the water filter plant in the municipality of Lares.

This water filter plant will serve over 40,000 persons and over 351 rural businesses in the municipalities of Lares, Las Marias and San Sebastian.

This project consists of improvements of the storage and distribution of the water in the municipality of Lares. This project will guarantee water for the actual and future generation of the municipalities of Lares and Las Marias. It will also serve the wards of Espino, Chamarro and Cerrote of the municipality of Las Marias and Percha Ward of the municipality of San Sebastian. This community has been without water distribution for the past 30 years.

USDA Rural Development has invested \$16,520,000, including a grant of \$6,000,000.00. The project has a total cost of \$25,600,000. This water treatment plant was designed to improve the water quality and infrastructure of the area until year 2025.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure.

Additional information on USDA Rural Development Programs can be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov> or by calling Nereida

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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Rodríguez at (787) 766-5095 X 250 or Miguel Ramírez X. 232. USDA Rural Development is committed to the future of rural communities.