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Rural Caddo Sewerage District Updating Equipment to Help Maintain Stability in Event of Emergencies

LPFA Low-Interest Loan Provides Savings

BATON ROUGE -- Caddo Parish Sewerage District No. 7, which operates between Shreveport and Blanchard, is investing in equipment to help protect against outages and ensure the stability of the system in the event of emergencies.

The District, which serves 1,500-2,000 homes and businesses, is installing a new electronic monitoring system, to alert officials of problems. It is also purchasing four generators to maintain power. The upgrades are made possible in part by low-interest financing through the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority.

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-- George Shaw, Jr., Caddo Parish Sewerage District No. 7

District Maintenance Supervisor George Shaw, Jr. said the new equipment will help ensure Caddo Parish Sewer District No. 7 – one of the state's largest independent sewer systems – can address problems preemptively before they prompt a system shutdown.

"Our region is prone to extreme weather – strong winds, ice storms and the occasional tornado. With this system, our Sewer District won't be paralyzed by it," Shaw explained. "The upgrades will make the system more reliable and ensure the lift stations keep pumping as they should so residents don't have to worry about problems."

In case of a storm or electrical outage, the system will still work, a fact that Sewer System Office Manager Barbara Giddings said should save money in the long term.

The District borrowed \$300,000 for the project, including \$75,000 through the <u>LPFA</u> <u>Low Interest Local Government Bond Bank Program</u>. The reduced interest rate will save the District \$6,830 in interest payments. "Commercial development has increased in this part of Caddo Parish in recent years. A reliable sewer system is essential. This is the type of project the LPFA's Bond Bank Program was designed to support," said Martin Walke, LPFA Vice President for Economic and Program Development.

About LPFA's Low Interest Local Government Bond Bank Program

The LPFA Low Interest Local Government Bond Bank Program is a voluntary program established by the LPFA Board of Trustees solely with LPFA funds to help local governmental entities and their constituents. This program is designed to help address the financing needs of local governmental entities and to reduce their overall borrowing costs.

About Louisiana Public Facilities Authority (LPFA)

The Louisiana Public Facilities Authority is a self-supporting public trust and public corporation that issues both taxable and tax-exempt bonds to finance public and private projects throughout the state. The LPFA finances industrial and economic development projects, provides low-cost funding for hospitals and hospital equipment, universities and other educational facilities and essential programs for state and local governmental units. The LPFA does not receive any funds from the state for its operations.

For more information about the LPFA and its low-interest loan programs, click here.

