



Rural Development

771 Corporate Drive, Ste. 200
Lexington, KY, 40503
Voice 859.224.7300
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ky>

News Release

Contact:
Katherine Belcher (859) 224-7306

Federal, State and Local Officials Break Ground Northern Kentucky Water District Improvement Project in Kenton County

ERLANGER, Ky., July 25, 2014 – USDA Rural Development State Director Tom Fern today joined state and local officials to break ground on a \$2.3 million in funding to upgrade the Northern Kentucky Water District’s infrastructure.

Rural Development funds will be used to construct approximately seven miles of 6- and 8-inch water line to serve 136 new customers in southern Kenton County who currently depend on wells or water hauling stations, which pose a potential health and sanitary risk. The funding includes a \$600,000 grant and \$1.73 million loan with repayment terms of 40 years at an interest rate of 2.75 percent.

“Access to clean, safe and reliable water is critical to improving the quality of life for rural Kentuckians,” said Fern. “USDA is proud to work in partnership with the Northern Kentucky Water District on this much needed water improvement project.”

Other funding sources include a \$1 million Community Development Block Grant, \$50,000 from the Kenton County Fiscal Court and a \$17,000 applicant contribution.

President Obama's plan for rural America has brought about historic investment and resulted in stronger rural communities. Under the President's leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way – strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities.

USDA’s investments in rural communities support the rural way of life, which stands as the backbone of our American values. President Obama and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack are committed to a smarter use of Federal resources to foster sustainable economic prosperity and ensure the government is a strong partner for businesses, entrepreneurs and working families in rural communities.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a national network of state and local offices. These programs are designed to improve the economic

stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.

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