



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Bossier Parish receives funding to build wastewater infrastructure

BATON ROUGE – Today, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the Bossier Parish Police Jury celebrated a loan closure for \$17,750,000. The funds will be used for a portion of the construction of wastewater infrastructure for the newly established Bossier Parish Consolidated Waterworks and Sewerage District #1.

Officials from DEQ, Bossier Parish and state and local representatives participated in the check presentation ceremony at the Bossier Parish Courthouse. Funding in the amount of \$17,750,000 will be provided to Bossier Parish for the project as a 0.95 percent interest loan with a 20 year payback term; plus two years for construction. The loan is part of DEQ's Clean Water State Revolving Fund, which provides low-cost funding to communities for the planning, design and construction of wastewater infrastructure.

The new wastewater treatment system will consist of regionalized wastewater collection and treatment facilities that will provide service to more than 17,000 residents in the planning area. While the current wastewater treatment facilities in the planning area serve several small commercial and residential developments, the consolidation program will eliminate the need for multiple small wastewater treatment plants; replacing them with one centralized facility on a 23.5-acre site adjacent to the Red River in Bossier Parish.

Proposed work on the project entails the installation of interceptor sewer mains, sewer force mains and 46 sewer lift stations. A force main will convey the discharge from the interceptor sewers to the proposed wastewater treatment plant. The construction of the continuous sequencing reactor wastewater treatment facility will include aeration, mixing, clarification and sludge return in a single basin. The treated effluent will finally pass through a chlorine contact chamber and flow monitoring before discharging to the Red River.

“This project is indicative of the solid pro-environmental relationship that DEQ continues to build throughout each of the 64 parishes in the state,” said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch. “We are honored to be able to assist Bossier Parish with funding for this invaluable project, as it is a win-win for the citizens of Bossier as well as the businesses who will see the direct benefits of the sewer district’s features and services. The waters of the state will benefit from the state-of-the art treatment facility that will provide environmental protection for Louisiana.”

“After many years of hard work by the Bossier Parish Police Jury, its staff, and the Department of Environmental Quality, Bossier Parish is about to embark on the construction of its first Sewerage District,” said Rick Avery, president of the Bossier Parish Police Jury. “Without the help and guidance of so many individuals at DEQ, and the \$17.75 million loan at such a low interest rate, this project would not have been possible.”