



NEWS RELEASE

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

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WIFA Announces Loan Closing for Ash Fork Water Service

PHOENIX (April 10, 2017) – Soon, over 200 households served by a small, private water company in Yavapai County will have safe drinking water. The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) announced today that it has closed a \$150,000 loan with Ash Fork Water Service to address arsenic concerns in the community's drinking water.

Arsenic contaminated water supplies can result from either natural or human activities, and is not uncommon in Arizona. In high concentrations, however, arsenic can have negative potential health effects.. Drinking water quality standards are in place and monitored to reduce these public health risks. Installing an arsenic treatment system, a critical infrastructure improvement for Ash Fork Water Service, will protect the community by improving water quality.

Like many small, rural communities in Arizona, Ash Fork Water Service faces financial challenges. Acting on a recommendation from WIFA's Advisory Board, the Arizona Finance Authority Board of Directors approved \$75,000 in forgivable principal to assist the community in reducing their overall cost of the project. The forgivable principal provided by WIFA allows Ash Fork Water Service to provide safe drinking water to its residents at half the cost.

"This project is a perfect example of the value WIFA can provide to Arizona's communities," said WIFA's Executive Director, Trish Incognito. "Ash Fork Water Service was able to benefit from the design of our programs, allowing this critical infrastructure project to take place while lessening the potential economic impact to the community."

About WIFA

WIFA is a governmental organization dedicated to protecting public health and promoting environmental quality through financial assistance for water and wastewater infrastructure. WIFA offers funding for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater projects designed to ensure safe, reliable drinking water and proper wastewater treatment. Over the last 25 years, WIFA has invested over \$2 billion in Arizona's communities.

For more information, please visit WIFA's website at azwifa.gov.

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