



NEWS RELEASE

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

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WIFA Announces \$5.5 Million Loan Closings for the City of Eloy

PHOENIX (March 23, 2015) – The City of Eloy is making additional improvements to their drinking water and sewer (wastewater) systems. The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona announced today that it has closed two loans totaling nearly \$5.5 million for the City of Eloy.

A \$4.5 million drinking water loan will provide the means to rehabilitate an agricultural well to meet drinking water quality standards and make repairs to electrical controls, site access components, and replace booster pumps. They will also install a new Main Street water line in order to resolve water pressure issues. For Eloy's sewer system, \$950,000 will be used to close a sludge basin and make electrical and blower improvements at its wastewater treatment plant. Upgrades and repairs on electrical controls, wet wells, guide rails and odor control will take place at four of the City's lift stations.

"Eloy is addressing the challenge of aging water infrastructure by prioritizing investments in existing infrastructure, which will help revitalize their community," said WIFA Board Chairman Henry Darwin, who is also Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

After evaluating Eloy's financial situation and the ability of the community to afford the loans, WIFA approved \$1,075,000 in forgivable principal to offset the costs of the projects. WIFA is dedicated to guiding its resources to communities with the greatest need, and strives to help make important infrastructure projects more affordable for utilities and their ratepayers.

Over the last several years, WIFA has approved seven other low-interest loans for Eloy, allowing them to make substantial improvements to their drinking water and wastewater systems. Savings from these projects benefit the ratepayers, as well as the environment. These enhancements improve the overall functioning and cost-effectiveness of the drinking water and sewer systems, thereby reducing water pollution and ensuring safe drinking water for years to come.

"The City of Eloy is a great customer to do business with," said WIFA Executive Director, Sandy Sutton. "We are happy to have the opportunity to partner with Eloy again on their water infrastructure improvements. The City's staff is responsive, dependable, and does an excellent job managing their projects."

In recognition of their efforts, the City of Eloy received WIFA's 2014 Drinking Water Project of the Year award for their Houser/Toltec Waterline Improvement project, a \$2 million infrastructure project to address inadequate water distribution infrastructure in the western portion of Eloy. The project was selected for award based on advances the City of Eloy made to

ensure system reliability, their excellent project management and commitment to protecting public health in Arizona through water infrastructure improvement.

WIFA is a state agency 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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