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WIFA Announces \$1 Million Loan Closing for East Slope Water Company

PHOENIX (December 24, 2015) – East Slope Water Company will be replacing deteriorating infrastructure and making upgrades to its drinking water system. The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona announced today that it has closed a \$1 million loan for East Slope Water Company to resolve storage, pressure and supply problems for its water system.

East Slope Water Company, a privately-owned water company located in Cochise County, serves approximately 2,265 people just outside of Sierra Vista. In 2012, the company received a WIFA design loan to obtain a thorough system evaluation from a qualified engineering consultant and then begin design of selected high-priority projects. After identifying the most critical system problems, the company is utilizing a new WIFA construction loan to resolve the issues.

The existing system has numerous sections of undersized water mains, which contribute to regular pressure problems in various portions of the water system, especially during peak demand periods. These issues occur regularly, and are especially problematic during well outages when water from one area of the system needs to be moved to other areas. To resolve these issues, the company will replace water mains and construct tie-overs and interconnect water lines to move water efficiently through the system.

“Projects like replacing water mains don’t get a lot of attention, but they are so important for Arizona’s communities, said WIFA Executive Director, Sandy Sutton. “By providing funding for infrastructure improvements like these, WIFA is able to help ensure that drinking water utilities can meet the long-term needs of their customers.”

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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