



WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY

Arizona's water and wastewater funding source

100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 | azwifa.gov | (602) 364-1310

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 13, 2019

Contact: Sara Konrad, Sr. Program Administrator (602) 364-1319

WIFA Announces \$230,000 Loan Closing for the White Mountain Apache Housing Authority

PHOENIX (May 13, 2019) - The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) announced today that it has recently closed two loans, totaling \$230,000 with the White Mountain Apache Housing Authority (WMAHA). WMAHA serves as the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT). The loans will fund the extension of drinking water and wastewater services to eight emergency housing units for displaced community members. Both loans carry a 20-year repayment term and a rate of 1.71 percent. Additionally, each loan includes 90 percent in forgivable principal.

Members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe live on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, located in Navajo, Gila and Apache Counties. In conjunction with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service, the WMAT Utility Authority operates drinking water and wastewater facilities throughout the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

WHAMA is working diligently to resolve a shortage of housing, currently impacting over 1,000 families and to provide essential short-term emergency housing infrastructure for members of the community. WMAHA is constructing four 3-bedroom units in Cibecue, and an additional four 3-bedroom units in McNary. The WIFA funded projects will install water and sewer lines to the eight emergency housing units built in the Cibecue and McNary communities.

The WIFA Board approved \$207,000 in forgivable principal between the two loans, reducing the overall cost for members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. "WIFA is proud to support the White Mountain Apache Housing Authority's efforts in providing critical housing," said Sara Konrad, WIFA Sr. Program Administrator.

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 29 years, WIFA has invested over \$2 billion in Arizona's communities.

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

###