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News Release

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DEQ Awards Grant Money to Cleveland Municipal Authority for Water System Improvements

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has awarded a grant to Cleveland Municipal Authority to help the water system come into compliance with federal regulations. The funding is through a DEQ grant program that is designed to assist public water supply systems that serve less than 10,000 people. Systems can use the money for planning and design services for drinking water projects from a licensed professional engineer.

The maximum grant amount available for each project application is \$125,000. Grants are awarded based upon the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Priority System. Through this system, high consideration is given for projects to protect public health, comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act, and correct design deficiencies.

"I am very grateful to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for making these grants available to the people of Oklahoma, and for awarding one to Cleveland," said state Sen. Joe Sweeden. "A grant such as this is very important to the people of Cleveland in order to improve the quality of their drinking water and to keep their water safe for future generations."

"I am proud Cleveland was selected for this grant," said state Rep. Rex Duncan. "Quality drinking water is so critical to the economic survivability of rural Oklahoma; this effort will help sustain Pawnee County for years to come."

"This grant opportunity affords water systems the ability to plan and design projects that may not have otherwise been possible due to lack of funds," said DEQ Executive Director Steve Thompson.

More information on this grant opportunity is available at http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/dwsrf/engineering_grant.html. Interested public water supply systems can also contact Brad Cook at (405) 702-8237 or brad.cook@deq.ok.gov.

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