

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EASTERN NEW MEXICO WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY SECURES \$77 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING TO HELP COMPLETE EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SYSTEM

CLOVIS, NM — The Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority (ENMWUA) has secured a \$77 million federal appropriation from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to continue construction of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System (ENMRWS), a critical infrastructure project designed to deliver a long-term, renewable water supply to the ENMWUA member communities of Clovis, Cannon Air Force Base, Portales, Texico, and Elida.

“We are very grateful to our federal delegation and the United States Bureau of Reclamation for their continued support of this critically important project. We are excited to continue progress on the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, which has been continuously under construction for eight years and is on track to begin delivering renewable surface water to our member communities within the next five years,” said Mike Morris, Chair of the ENMWUA Board of Directors.

This \$77 million federal appropriation, combined with recent state funding awards, means ENMWUA has secured approximately \$95.7 million in recent project funding to apply toward completion of 16.3 miles of the Raw Water 1B and Raw Water 2 pipelines, representing the final large diameter pipeline segments necessary to deliver future surface water from Ute Reservoir to ENMWUA’s member communities.

ENMWUA Vice Chair Jim Lucero echoed Morris’ enthusiasm, adding, “This is an important milestone. We look forward to securing funding to finish the remaining infrastructure needed, which is vital to securing the water future for nearly 73,000 of our neighbors.”

The ENMWUA anticipates bidding the final large diameter pipeline segment in the fall of 2026 and beginning construction in early to mid-2027.

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About the ENMWUA – The Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority was created by the New Mexico State Legislature in 2010 to build and operate the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System (ENMRWS), a regional project federally authorized in 2009 to supply potable water to Clovis (including Canon Air Force Base and portions of Curry County), Portales (including portions of Roosevelt County), Texico and Elida. The project will treat and deliver up to 16,415 acre-feet per year from a renewable surface water supply at Ute Reservoir. It is needed to supplement the current sole source of water for the area, the Ogallala Aquifer, which is steadily declining.

Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority Members

City of Clovis • Town of Elida • City of Portales • City of Texico

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