

MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Mary Massad
Manager/CEO

Thanks to the steadfast and generous efforts of Senator Byron Dorgan, the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) is receiving \$12 million in stimulus funding, advancing our financing and construction by seeming light years. Well, maybe not light

years, per se, but they just so happen to be a more common measurement than "water years," which sounds a bit wet in theory when compared to the vastness that a light year encompasses. Imagine President Kennedy trying to persuade America in the 1960's to put a man on the moon using "water years;" I have a feeling this strategy wouldn't have stayed afloat. But thanks to the right terminology coupled with one of the most charismatic personas, this American Dream became a reality. Today, the people of southwest North Dakota are involved in their own Mission Critical, and Senator Dorgan has taken the forefront in expanding our vital water infrastructure. To clarify exactly how long a "water year" is, consider for a moment that Senator Dorgan's endeavors have put the SWPP an estimated two to four calendar years ahead of projected construction progress. Very Kennedy-esque, one might say.

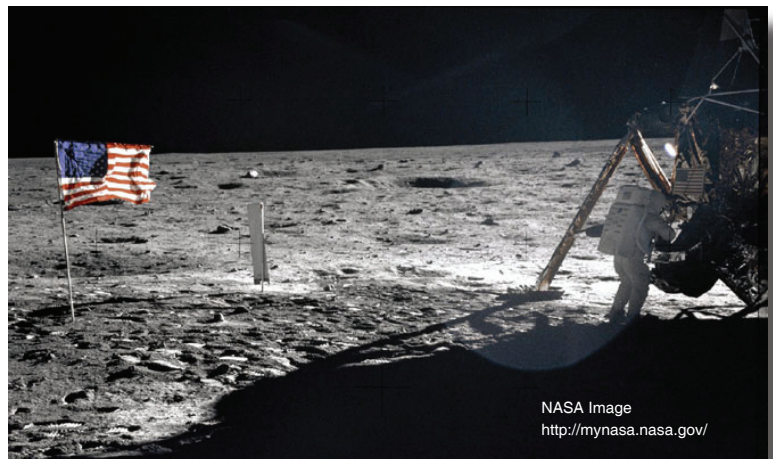
Additional funding will force the main transmission line currently under construction along County Road 13 and Highway 200 (north of Zap to Hazen) that much closer to completion, in addition to the manifestation of the water treatment plant (WTP) located on the highest point in Mercer County. Once complete, this WTP will serve Oliver, Mercer and North Dunn Counties. This will require extra focus on membrane procurement documents and final design of the WTP. Phase I will include construction of the actual WTP and installation of treatment equipment,

**The Official Publication of
Southwest Water Authority
and the Southwest Pipeline Project**

**November 2009
Volume 12, Issue 4**

commissioning a capacity of 2.5 million gallons per day (Mgd), with the ultimate design of five Mgd. Once a softening membrane concentrate discharge facility and potable water reservoir have been constructed, these facilities will work in tandem to serve citizens quality water, putting our proverbial man on the moon.

Half a century ago, though not the creation of his own genius, a prominent leader put the public spotlight on a vision of the future. He drew attention to the matter, gathered funds, and made everyone realize just how essential to the future this dream really was. Kennedy's forethought put him ahead of his time, or at least at the cutting edge of it. Today, Senator Byron Dorgan has a vision of the future. These are extraordinary times, and we face unprecedented challenges along the way. I, however, feel more than confident that with the Senator's leadership priorities and common sense wisdom forging the way, we can one day call the completed project one small step for water, and one giant leap for the people of North Dakota.



NASA Image
<http://my.nasa.gov/>

2009



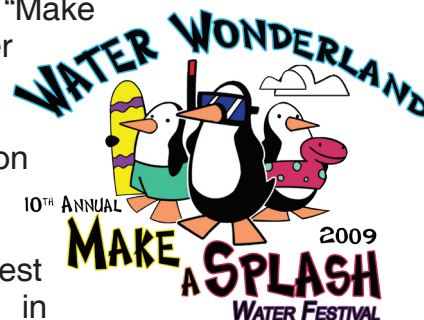
Water Works



10TH ANNIVERSARY

The 10th Annual "Make A Splash" Water Festival was held September 17 and 18 at the Dickinson Recreation Center.

This event was hosted by Southwest Water Authority in cooperation with several water advocates including Stark and Billings County Water Resource Districts, Dakota West Resource Conservation & Development, ND State Water Commission and Project WET, Roughrider Electric Charitable Foundation Inc., Slope Electric Trust Inc., Montana-Dakota Utilities Company and numerous other in-kind supporters.



Providing education about water quality, the importance of conservation and the dangerous effects of pollution was the focus of the event. Expert presenters taught the different aspects of water and the important role it plays in our everyday lives.

MAKE YOURSELF COUNT IN 2010

The 2010 Census is underway. The U.S. Census Bureau completed an address canvassing this past spring in an attempt to update all local residential addresses. Once every ten years both citizens and noncitizens are counted where they live and sleep most of the time as of April 1, 2010. Residents should receive a Census form around mid-March 2010.

The reason for the count is to distribute over \$400 billion in federal funding for road construction, health care services, child care programs, emergency services, schools, housing needs, transportation needs, etc.

United States Census 2010

Census data is also used for marketing studies to attract new business – all sources of new jobs. Legislature lines are also drawn using this data. Missing 100 people means a loss of over \$1 million in funding for North Dakota, as well as a misrepresentation of the number of individuals using its retail industry.

Southwest North Dakota is taking an aggressive stance toward an accurate count. Your participation is vital to North Dakota's future, your communities future and to your future.

2009 PROGRESS REPORT



BACKGROUND IN BRIEF

The Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP), a state-owned project, administered by the ND State Water Commission and operated and maintained by the Southwest Water Authority (SWA), transports raw water from Lake Sakakawea to Dickinson. There, the water is treated and delivered to customers throughout southwest North Dakota and Perkins County, South Dakota.

The North Dakota State Legislature established the SWA, a political subdivision, in 1991 to manage, operate and maintain the SWPP. A 14-member board of directors is responsible for governing the SWA. Each county within the SWPP Service Area is represented by one director and the city of Dickinson is represented by two. The counties represented include: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Grant, Hettinger, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Slope and Stark.

This past legislative session saw the expansion of SWA's authority and extension of its mill levy. It also saw the addition of a board member from the city of Mandan. SWA looks forward to welcoming its newest board member representing the city of Mandan on July 1, 2010.

For 24 years, the SWPP has been constructing an efficient network of pipelines, pump stations, reservoirs and treatment facilities, bringing southwest North Dakota a consistent quantity of quality water. To date, the pipeline serves 28 communities, more than 4,000 rural service locations, 14 small businesses and 15 raw water customers.

HIGHLIGHTS

In an effort to better serve our customers a survey was conducted by a consulting firm. Surveys were mailed to all contract and rural customers. Survey results indicated more than 50 percent of individuals ranked courtesy, timeliness and knowledge of the SWA staff as "excellent."

The North Dakota Department of Health issued the SWA certificates of compliance for successfully meeting all of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements for each of the SWA's five public water systems. SWA also received the Water Fluoridation Quality Award from the United States Centers for Disease Control (USCDC). Water fluoridation has been recognized by the USCDC as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th Century.

Pandemic. Drought. Tornado. Floods. Preparedness is critical to succeed in today's world. In 2009 the primary focus for emergency preparedness was the pandemic flu. SWA will continue to develop effective strategies to improve the overall Emergency Response Plan in preparation for potential disasters.

In November, 2008, North Dakota became an official Water/Wastewater Response Network (WARN) state. In April, 2009, the board of directors voted to join ND WARN and sign the mutual aid agreement. This agreement will provide resources such as specialized equipment and/or staff should the need arise in a disaster situation. There are currently 19 members in the North Dakota WARN Network.

PHASED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Current Development Phase

Medora-Beach Phase

West Zone

Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn Phase

North Zone

PROGRESS

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Construction is substantially complete for Phase III of the Medora-Beach Regional Service Area. Construction this past year included providing rural service to residents in the North Fairfield Service Area, the Grassy Butte Service Area, as well as the West Killdeer Mountain Pocket in northern Dunn County. A total of 426 customers are served through 396 miles of pipeline. The Fairfield Reservoir, a 197,300 gallon potable water reservoir, located northwest of Fairfield was also turned over for service in 2009. Cleanup, seed bed preparation and grass seeding are all that remain on these contracts.

With the Medora-Beach Regional Service Area being completed, the focus for the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) turns to completion of the Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn (OMND) Regional Service Area. The main transmission line from north of Zap to Hazen is underway. Bids were opened on June 25, 2009. The contract was awarded on July 24, 2009, to Titus Excavating Inc., of Bismarck, North Dakota. Construction began on September 1, 2009. Substantial completion of this contract, Contract 2-8A, is scheduled for June 1, 2010. Construction includes approximately 23 miles of 18" through 14" gasketed joint pipe, two pressure reducing valve vaults, road crossings, connection to the city of Hazen's distribution system, installation of a prefabricated meter vault and other related appurtenances.

The Water Treatment Plant (WTP) that will provide water service to the OMND Regional Service Area will be located approximately eight miles north of Zap along County Road 13. Membrane filtration and membrane softening will be used in this WTP. Membrane procurement documents have been completed and the membranes are currently being bid. Once awarded, final design on the WTP will be completed. It is anticipated that construction will begin in 2010 on the WTP.

Southwest Water Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status or disability in employment or the provision of services.

VISION
People and business
succeeding with quality water.

MISSION
Providing quality water
for southwest North Dakota.

FUNDING

In April, Senator Byron L. Dorgan, D-ND, met with the Southwest Water Authority (SWA) board of directors, management, staff and other water advocates in Dickinson, North Dakota. Discussions were held regarding the \$8 million in federal funding the project received in 2009, as well as the \$3 million received in 2008 and the projected \$9 million for 2010.

SWA received a letter from Senator Dorgan noting that \$9 million for the Southwest Pipeline Project has been included in the appropriation bill approved by the Senate in late August. This bill has already been approved by Congress and is awaiting the President's signature.

Senator Dorgan, along with Senator Conrad and Representative Pomeroy, secured \$12 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for construction of the WTP which will serve the OMND Regional Service Area.

All of the aforementioned funds will come to the SWPP through the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District's Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) Program.

Editor: LoAnn's Marketing Inc.
Southwest Water Authority, 4665 2nd Street SW
Dickinson, ND 58601-7231
Telephone: 701-225-0241
Toll-Free: 1-888-425-0241
Fax: 701-225-4058
Web Site: www.swa.swc.state.nd.us
E-Mail: swa@swwater.com

REPORT