American Recover and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Section 1511 Certification

I, J. Randy Young PE, Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, am the chief executive officer of the Commission and pursuant to ARRA Section 1511 make the following certification.

The investment in infrastructure projects listed below has received the full review and vetting required by law. I, in my official capacity, have determined and accept the responsibility that the infrastructure investment is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.

Batesville Wastewater Project

Funding Source: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Batesville, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Batesville, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $50,000,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $13,036,500.00

Description of Project Need: Batesville is under a Consent Administrative Order with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality because of the condition of its collection system and treatment plant. They plan to spend $50 million to rehab their collection system and upgrade their treatment plant. The work will be done in several phases. The first phase, which will use the ARRA funds, will replace a pump station and forcemain from the City to the treatment plant with a gravity line and tunnel. This phase will eliminate the existing pump station saving the City the electricity, operation and maintenance costs. The energy savings have made the project eligible as a Green Project giving it access to the Green Project Reserve ARRA funds set aside for these types of projects.

Description of Project Goal: The project will bring Batesville into compliance with the Clean Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

Buffalo Island Regional Water District Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Craighead and Mississippi Counties

Communities Serviced: Rural areas of Craighead and Mississippi Counties around Caraway, Leachville, Manila and Monette.

Estimated Total Costs: $6,000,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $6,000,000.00

Description of Project Need: Buffalo Island RWD currently purchases water from four cities. The system has experienced steady growth and now can not meet the needs of its customers using these water sources. The system plans to add a water well, treatment plant, lines and enlarge lines in the distribution system and add two elevated storage tanks to its system to supplement the water from the cities.

Description of Project Goal: It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

Cotton Plant Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Cotton Plant, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Cotton Plant, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $1,750,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $1,550,000.00

Description of Project Need: Cotton Plant's distribution system is experiencing a large amount of water loss. While Cotton Plant has replaced line as they were able, they have not had the funds to stay ahead of the problem. The water savings resulting from these repairs have made the project eligible as a Green Project giving it access to the Green Project Reserve ARRA funds set aside for these types of projects. The water treatment plant also needs some upgrades and equipment replacement. The pressure filters and associated pipes need replaced and automated controls need to be installed. Cotton Plant also experiences pressure problems at the end of some lines. They plan to loop these lines with adjacent lines to solve these pressure problems. Finally, they need to supplement their current water sources by add another water well to the system.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Cotton Plant to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

East Prairie County Water Association Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Prairie County

Communities Serviced: Rural customers in Northeast Prairie County north of Biscoe

Estimated Total Costs: $600,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $600,000.00

Description of Project Need: East Prairie Co WA added a second well to their system that produces 300 gpm. Their existing water treatment plant is 33 years old and has a capacity of 150 gpm. Their system has experienced steady growth and the existing treatment plant can no longer meet their needs. They plan to replace the existing water treatment plant with a larger capacity treatment plant.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow East Prairie Co WA to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last for a minimum of 20 years.

Franklin Sebastian Public Water Authority Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Franklin and Sebastian Counties

Communities Serviced: Charleston, Lavaca and River South Water District

Estimated Total Costs: $15,850,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $ 9,000,000.00

Description of Project Need: Franklin Sebastian PWA is composed of water systems in Franklin and Sebastian counties, who have a need for water. These systems created Franklin Sebastian PWA as a means of sharing the costs of building a pipeline from Fort Smith to Franklin County. All of these suffered during the drought in 2007 and have a need to supplement their existing water sources. This project provides an affordable way for each of them to gain access to a water source that they could not afford individually.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Franklin Sebastian PWA's customers to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

Glenwood Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Glenwood, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Glenwood, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $900,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $900,000.00

Description of Project Need: Glenwood has been in a major upgrade and expansion program of its system for the last five to ten years. The result has been a large increase in the number of customers and water lines. Glenwood is concerned about their ability to detect leaks and to read all of the water meters in their system. They have decided to equip all of their water meters with telemetry equipment that will transmit water usage back to the water office. This will allow them to track water usage and detect leaks on a real time basis. The water savings resulting from this ability to detect leaks has made the project eligible as a Green Project giving it access to the Green Project Reserve ARRA funds set aside for these types of projects.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Glenwood to run its system efficiently. It will also provide infrastructure that will last for the next 20 years.

Hot Springs Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Hot Springs, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Hot Springs, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $13,000,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $ 3,000,000.00

Description of Project Need: Hot Springs has a large service area that services most of the area around Lake Hamilton. The result is a large number of customers and water lines. Hot Springs is concerned about their ability to detect leaks and to read all of the water meters in their system. They have decided to replace all of their water meters with telemetry equipped meters that will transmit water usage back to the water office. This will allow them to track water usage and detect leaks on a real time basis. The water savings resulting from this ability to detect leaks has made the project eligible as a Green Project giving it access to the Green Project Reserve ARRA funds set aside for these types of projects.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Hot Springs to run its system efficiently. It will also provide infrastructure that will last for the next 20 years.

Little Rock Constructed Wetland Project

Funding Source: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Presidential Park in Little Rock, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Little Rock, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $300,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $300,000.00

Description of Project Need: Little Rock is redeveloping its river front property in order to promote downtown redevelopment and tourism. As part of that effort, they have plans to make improvements to property next to the Clinton Presidential Library. They have plans to restore wetlands, create nature walks and enhance accessibility to this area to promote usage by both wildlife and people. A portion of the wetland restoration will be paid for from ARRA funds.

Description of Project Goal: The project will restore wetlands in an area that has not had such an environment in many years. It will create a refuge for both wildlife and people.

Prairie Grove Wastewater Project

Funding Source: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Prairie Grove, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Prairie Grove, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $8,000,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $5,885,000.00

Description of Project Need: Prairie Grove has an existing treatment plant that is at capacity and they have been told by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality that they will be required to remove Phosphorus from their wastewater. Prairie Grove plans to add treatment processes to meet the new effluent limits and expand existing processes to handle the additional flow capacity needed. They will also be adding new sludge management processes that will provide them with more alternatives for the disposal of their sludge.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Prairie Grove to maintain compliance with the Clean Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

Siloam Springs Wastewater Project

Funding Source: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Siloam Springs, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $24,000,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $ 4,000,000.00

Description of Project Need: Siloam Springs has an existing treatment plant that is at capacity and they have been told by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality that they will be required to remove Phosphorus from their wastewater. Siloam Springs plans to add treatment processes to meet the new effluent limits and expand existing processes to handle the additional flow capacity needed. They will also be adding new sludge management processes that will provide them with more alternatives for the disposal of their sludge. This project had already started construction before ARRA funds became available. ARRA funds will be used to fund the cost of bid overruns.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Siloam Springs to maintain compliance with the Clean Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

Smackover Water Project

Funding Source: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Location: Smackover, Arkansas

Communities Serviced: Smackover and Southeast Ouachita County, Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $900,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $900,000.00

Description of Project Need: Smackover recently expanded its system by acquiring the Standard Umstead Water Association. This acquisition pushed their water source to its limit. Smackover

plans to add a new water well to their system to supplement their existing supply. In addition, they plan to add an elevated storage tank to the system to correct pressure and supply problems.

Description of Project Goal: The project will allow Smackover to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. It will also provide infrastructure that will last in some cases for the next 40 years.

University of Arkansas – Discovery Farms Research Project

Funding Source: Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Location: State of Arkansas

Communities Serviced: State of Arkansas

Estimated Total Costs: $300,000.00

Estimated ARRA Funds: $300,000.00

Description of Project Need: The University of Arkansas proposes to conduct research on chemical application rates and the resulting runoff of chemicals at four different locations with different soil conditions to quantify effective application rates while minimizing runoff of chemicals. ARRA funds will be used to purchase the monitoring equipment that will be used in this research project.

Description of Project Goal: The project has the potential to document loading rates for agricultural chemicals that will be both effective and minimize the runoff of those chemicals. Any reduction in the transport of agricultural chemicals into the surface waters of Arkansas can have a big impact on the water quality of our State.

Certified this 13th day of October, 2009.

J. Randy Young, PE
Executive Director
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission