



THE BUZZ

WINTER 2017

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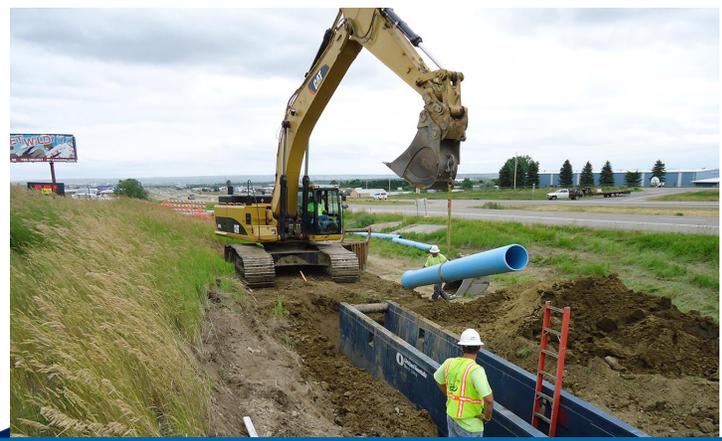
SWC Approves WAWSA Funding Request for 2017-2019 Projects

The State Water Commission approved the Western Area Water Supply Authority’s (WAWSA) request on December 8 for \$11.25 million to complete five projects. “We are grateful the State Water Commission approved our request. Our rural customers are anxiously awaiting WAWSA’s service area expansions,” says Jaret Wirtz, WAWSA Executive Director.

One of the projects that will be funded by the newly approved state grant money includes rural water service expansions in the McKenzie County Water Resource District. “We have farmers and ranchers south of Watford City, as well as several commercial and industrial developments requesting water service. When it is complete, 96 miles of pipeline will deliver high-quality drinking water to approximately 111 new users. This is an area where water resources are limited and generally of very poor quality,” explains Wirtz.

In addition, a two million gallon water tower will be constructed between Arnegard and Watford City. “Sharing a large tower is a more cost-effective way to meet the needs of the region, rather than building individual towers for each community,” says Wirtz.

The third project is a rural water service expansion to benefit customers in the R&T Water Supply Commerce Authority service area east of the White Earth River Valley.



WAWSA’s focus for the 2017-2019 biennium is to complete expansions to additional rural areas of northwestern North Dakota.

The project will bring service to approximately 58 new rural users, the community of White Earth, and includes capacity to serve the City of Powers Lake under a future project through 105 miles of pipe to areas where water resources are limited and generally of very poor quality.

(Continued on page 2)

WAWSA Requests SWC Funding for 2017-2019 Projects (continued)

Within the Williams Rural Water District, WAWSA has a rural water service expansion planned for new commercial and rural customers in central Williams County northwest of Williston. The project will bring service to the new Williston Regional Airport, as well as Williston's District 8 School, plus 30 rural customers.

The funding approved in December will also allow WAWSA to complete the final phase of the pretreatment process expansion that began in 2013 at the Williston Regional Water Treatment Plant, which is the primary treatment facility for WAWSA water. The project also includes the construction of an enclosure for the entire pretreatment process.

During the legislative session, WAWSA requested \$20 million from the State Water Commission's budget plus \$10 million in loans, to complete multiple rural projects by mid-2019. Earlier this year, the North Dakota State Water Commission approved \$8.75 million for the project. That funding went towards connecting 415 new customers,

including 90 around Stanley, 240 near White Earth, and 85 in McKenzie County. The \$11.25 million approved in December brings WAWSA to the \$20 million in grant money requested for this biennium.

WAWSA has completed \$309M in construction projects to date, using all of the funding received since the project began. That includes a total of more than 1,450 miles of pipeline to deliver water to cities and rural areas in five northwestern North Dakota counties.

About 60,000 people currently receive drinking water from WAWSA. In addition to rural customers across Burke, Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams Counties, residents of Williston, Watford City, Ray, Tioga, Stanley, Wildrose, Crosby, Fortuna, Noonan, Columbus, and Ross also receive WAWSA service. ■

2017 Industrial Water Sales Increase

It appears the oil industry in the Bakken region of North Dakota is making a comeback. Through November 2017, WAWSA sold 68 percent more industrial water than it did in 2016.

Last year, WAWSA sold a total of 538 million gallons of water to industrial users. That's an average of 1.49 million gallons per day. In the first 11 months of 2017, WAWSA sold 846 million gallons. That is 2.53 million gallons per day. The total number of gallons sold to industrial users this year will be available in early 2018.

The State-backed Western Area Water Supply Project is one of the first successful Public-Private-Partnerships in North Dakota. Oil companies purchase water from WAWSA for use during the hydraulic fracturing process, as well as other drilling, completion, and well maintenance activities. Industrial revenue is utilized to pay back the loans used to build the drinking water infrastructure that is necessary for serve towns and rural areas across Burke, Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams Counties.

"We are certainly happy to see those industrial sales bouncing back after a rough 2016. The companies that

purchase water at our depots or through direct connections are helping to keep our domestic water prices low for the people who receive WAWSA water at their homes," explains Mark Owan, WAWSA Board Chairman.

"The revenue we bring in from industrial customers helps us sustain, maintain, and increase our service area to additional rural domestic customers," Owan says.

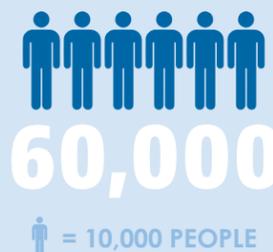
WAWSA provides temporary and permanent direct water pipeline connections for industrial use, as well as operating nine industrial water depots. There are no plans at this time to increase the number of depots that WAWSA operates.

"The goal of this project has always been to deliver high-quality drinking water to northwestern North Dakota residents. The oil industry has been able to benefit the region by purchasing WAWSA water which helps subsidize the domestic part of the project." says Owan.

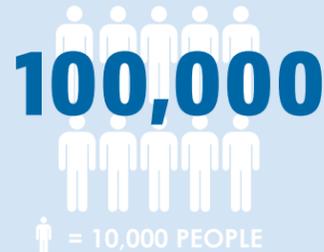
A special Industrial Water edition of The Buzz newsletter will be published in mid-2018. ■

WAWSP PROGRESS

CURRENT PEOPLE SERVED BY WAWSA



FUTURE PEOPLE WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE WAWSP BY 2038



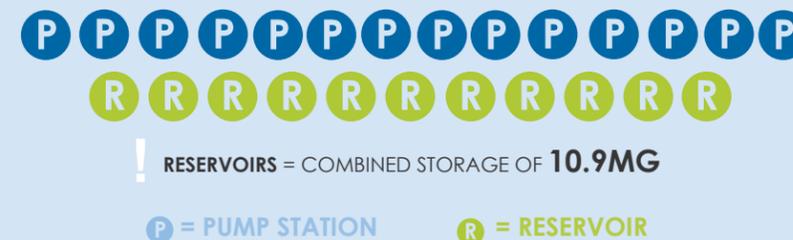
WATER TREATMENT WILLISTON REGIONAL WTP



WATER TOWERS 3 WATER TOWERS + 1 FUTURE



PUMP STATIONS & RESERVOIRS



WAWSP MILES OF PIPELINE



1,450
INSTALLED



110
UNDER CONSTRUCTION



122
DESIGN PHASE

The Cookies that Attract Crowds at WAWSA Board Meetings

In addition to managing the WAWSA finances, Business Manager Kim Schilke also knows the best baker in northwestern North Dakota. It happens to be Schilke's mother-in-law, Bobbi Hongerholt.

Anyone who has attended a WAWSA Board meeting, ribbon cutting, or other celebration has likely tasted Mrs. Hongerholt's handiwork.

"We look forward to Bobbi's cookies. They are one of the highlights of our monthly Board meetings," says Jaret Wirtz, WAWSA Executive Director.

Over the years she has made many varieties of delicious baked goods for WAWSA events. However, her soft chocolate chip cookies seem to be everyone's favorite treat. As a Christmas gift to WAWSA users, Mrs. Hongerholt has agreed to share her top secret recipe.

"This is a great recipe that will turn out well for anyone who tries it. Of course, I'll always like them best when they're made by Bobbi," says Schilke with a smile.

Bobbi's Soft Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups butter, at room temperature
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 6 oz. package vanilla instant pudding mix
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 3 – 4 cups chocolate chips
- 1 1/2 cups nuts (optional)

Mix ingredients and drop spoonfuls of batter onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 375° for 8–10 minutes. ENJOY! ■

