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EDWARD G. RENDELL, Governor

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GOVERNOR RENDELL ANNOUNCES \$94 MILLION INVESTMENT IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

HARRISBURG – Governor Edward G. Rendell today announced the investment of \$94 million in 22 clean water projects in 20 counties. The PENNVEST board of directors approved \$75 million in low-interest loans and \$19 million in grants at its quarterly meeting.

“The critically needed water projects approved today will help Pennsylvania meet its public health and environmental challenges while creating construction jobs and permanent jobs in all corners of the state,” said Governor Rendell. “Funding for these projects is another positive step to improve the environment and economic well-being of our communities and residents.”

The awards range from a \$125,000 loan to replace deteriorated drinking water distribution lines in a community in Crawford County to a \$17.5 million loan and grant combination to build a new wastewater treatment plant that will eliminate wet weather discharges of raw sewage into a stream in Wayne County.

Funds for the projects are disbursed after bills for work are paid and the receipts are submitted to PENNVEST for reimbursement.

For more information about PENNVEST, visit www.pennvest.state.pa.us.

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The Rendell administration is committed to creating a first-rate public education system, protecting our most vulnerable citizens and continuing economic investment to support our communities and businesses. To find out more about Governor Rendell's initiatives and to sign up for his weekly newsletter, visit: www.governor.state.pa.us.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A list of project summaries, by county, follows.

PENNVEST AGRICULTURAL WASTE PROJECT:

Lancaster County

Bion PA, Inc. received a \$7.8 million loan to construct a livestock waste treatment facility at Kreider Farms that will reduce both nitrogen and phosphorous emissions to the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The project is expected to generate a significant number of tradable nutrient credits that could be sold to other entities within the Chesapeake Bay watershed to help them comply with their own discharge limits for nitrogen and phosphorous.

PENNVEST DRINKING WATER PROJECTS:

Bedford County

Bedford Township Municipal Authority received a \$980,000 loan to construct more than a mile of water distribution lines to serve an area of the township where private drinking water wells are contaminated with coliform bacteria from nearby malfunctioning on-lot septic systems.

Bucks County

Aqua PA received a \$2.4 million loan for improvements to an existing drinking water treatment facility to ensure the future availability of drinking water for customers.

Clearfield County

BCI Municipal Authority received a \$577,000 loan and a \$298,000 grant to construct more than four miles of water distribution lines to provide service to the customers of the Glen Hope Water Authority, which is in periodic violation of safe drinking water regulations due to water outages and contamination from surface water sources. In addition to providing a reliable source of safe drinking water to the authority's customers, this project will also allow a local furniture manufacturer to expand its operations and create 20 new full-time jobs.

Bradford Township received a \$1.2 million loan and a \$752,000 grant to construct an interconnect with the Pennsylvania American Water Company to serve residents whose drinking water wells are contaminated by coliform bacteria.

Crawford County

Conneautville Borough received a \$125,000 loan to replace water lines along Thatcher Road, where residents experience frequent water line breaks and pressure problems.

Indiana County

Indiana County Municipal Services Authority received a \$4.4 million loan and a \$1.4 million grant to construct more than 11 miles of water distribution lines, a new water storage tank and an interconnect with the Ernest Borough water system, which the authority is acquiring. The project will provide a reliable source of safe drinking water to residents who either currently rely on private wells that are contaminated or face frequent water outages from distribution line breaks.

Jefferson County

Winslow Township received a \$1.7 million loan and a \$759,000 grant to construct more than four miles of water distribution lines and an interconnect to the Sykesville Borough system to provide safe drinking water to 87 households in the Village of Soldier whose wells are contaminated by bacteria from local on-lot septic systems, as well as acid mine drainage.

Luzerne County

Aqua PA received an \$882,000 loan to replace water mains along Lake Valley Drive in the Eagle Rock community of Black Creek Township, where residents experience poor water pressure and inadequate water flow.

Somerset County

Somerset Township Municipal Authority received a \$2.7 million loan and a \$1.2 million grant to construct more than four miles of water distribution lines and a new water storage tank to provide a reliable source of safe drinking water to customers of four local, non-viable water systems that suffer from poor water quality and unreliable service.

Westmoreland County

New Kensington City Municipal Authority received a \$1.9 million loan to replace nearly four miles of old water lines in various areas of the city, as well as the City of Lower Burrell, that experience water outages and poor pressure.

PENNVEST WASTEWATER PROJECTS:

Allegheny County

Emsworth Borough received a \$695,000 loan to construct new sewer collection lines and upgrade a pump station to handle wet weather water flows that currently overload the system and result in the discharge of untreated sewage into the Ohio River.

Beaver County

Freedom Borough Conveyance Collection Authority received a \$980,000 loan to install new sanitary sewers as part of a combined sewer separation project that will eliminate the discharge of untreated waste into the Ohio River during wet weather.

Bedford County

Bedford Township Municipal Authority received a \$1.1 million loan to construct approximately two and a half miles of sewer mains and other facilities to serve 33 households whose on-lot septic systems are malfunctioning and contaminating local drinking water wells.

Butler County

Butler Area Sewer Authority received a \$7.3 million loan to rehabilitate nearly 12 miles of sanitary sewer mains and upgrade other facilities to eliminate overflows of raw sewage into Sullivan Run during wet weather.

Center and Clearfield counties

Karthus-Burnside Joint Sewer Authority received a \$5.8 million loan and a \$3.4 million grant to construct a new wastewater treatment plant, four pump stations and more than nine miles of sewage collection lines to serve an area where illegal wild-cat sewers currently discharge raw sewage into Mosquito Creek, which is a high quality trout stream that feeds directly into the West Branch of the Susquehanna River.

Clarion County

Paint-Elk Joint Sewer Authority received a \$1.8 million loan to construct new sewage collection lines and grinder pump connections to eliminate overloading of the Amsler Pump Station during wet weather.

Lycoming County

Loyalsock Township received a \$4 million loan and a \$1.3 million grant to replace more than five miles of sewage collection lines and other facilities to eliminate surges that occur during wet weather and cause basement flooding in local homes. In addition, the project will allow a local dairy pasteurization and bottling facility to create 15 new full-time jobs.

Mifflin County

Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority received a \$6.2 million loan and a \$3.3 million grant to construct more than 14 miles of wastewater collection lines and interconnect with two nearby municipal systems in order to eliminate the use of malfunctioning on-lot septic systems that are contaminating local drinking water wells.

Schuylkill County

West Mahanoy Township received a \$5.6 million loan and a \$1.5 million grant to construct a new sewage treatment facility, approximately seven miles of gravity and pressure sewers and other facilities that will eliminate the use of malfunctioning on-lot septic systems that are contaminating groundwater and discharging into nearby ponds and streams.

Venango County

Oil City received a \$4.9 million loan to make improvements to the existing treatment plant and interceptor to eliminate the bypassing of raw sewage into the Allegheny River and Oil Creek that occur during wet weather.

Wayne County

Central Wayne Regional Authority received a \$12.5 million loan and a \$5 million grant to construct a new wastewater treatment facility to eliminate wet weather bypasses of raw sewage into the existing treatment plant's receiving stream.

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