



North American Development
Bank

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PRESS RELEASE

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Sewer system completed in El Paso Lower Valley

Socorro, Texas. – Residents of the Cotton Valley neighborhood in Socorro, Texas now have sewer service thanks to a wastewater project funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF), which is administered by the North American Development Bank (NADB). This morning, community members joined U.S. Representative Texas District 23 Will Hurd, Texas State Senator Jose Rodriguez, North American Development Bank (NADB) Managing Director Alex Hinojosa, EPA Region 6 Water Division Deputy Director David Garcia and Lower Valley Water District (LVWD) officials to celebrate the completion of a wastewater collection system that is providing first-time service to more than 200 residents of this Lower Valley community.

The US\$1.3 million project consisted of the design and construction of a sewer system, including the installation of 63 residential connections, which are collecting approximately 23,300 gallons per day of wastewater.

"Making sure that the good families in Cotton Valley have access to sanitary sewer services is critical and urgent," said U.S. Representative Will Hurd. "With the help of this grant funding from NADBank, the Lower Valley Water District will be able to improve collection and treatment, ensure a healthier and cleaner environment in the community and provide first-time sewer service to more than 60 households in the 23rd District of Texas. I will continue to do everything in my power to protect the health and safety of South and West Texans."

“Residents have continuously dealt with failing and overflowing septic systems as well as groundwater contamination. With the support of EPA through the BEIF program, this project has addressed those problems and reduce the risk of waterborne diseases in the neighborhood,” said Alex Hinojosa.

Prior to this project, residents were connected to the LVWD water system but used on-site sanitary systems such as septic tanks to manage residential wastewater. These tanks were subject to overflows and other failures, especially during irrigation season when groundwater levels are higher. Through this project, the septic systems were decommissioned, and homes are now connected to LVWD’s existing wastewater collection infrastructure located along North Loop Road.

This project will also help reduce the risks of contamination of local and shared water bodies, such as the Rio Grande River.

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NADB is a financial institution established and capitalized in equal parts by the United States and Mexico for the purpose of financing environmental infrastructure projects along their common border. As a pioneer institution in its field, the Bank is working to develop environmentally and financially sustainable projects with broad community support in a framework of close cooperation and coordination between Mexico and the United States.