



**NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
FACT SHEET**

**CAMERON COUNTY IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO. 2,
TEXAS**

- Project:** Replacement of River Pumping Plant
- Cost:** US\$11,000,436
- Sponsor** Cameron County Irrigation District No. 2
- Location:** The irrigation district is located in the central part of Cameron County in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Included within the boundaries of the District are the cities of San Benito, Rio Hondo, and part of the City of Harlingen.
- Background:** Created in 1917, the District serves both irrigation and municipal customers. In fact, it is the sole source of water for the cities of San Benito and Rio Hondo, which together have a population of over 60,000 residents.
- The District consists of two main systems: the High Line System, which provides water to the northern portion of the District; and the Low Line System, which provides the southern portion of the District and two storage reservoirs. The water in the reservoirs serves as a backup water supply for municipal and industrial deliveries, as well as provides a cushion during the four-day delivery time required to convey water from International Falcon Reservoir down the Rio Grande to the District's pumping system. Current water conveyance efficiency is estimated at 40%.
- The District's existing river Pumping Plant delivers water to both the Low Line and High Line Systems. It was constructed over 90 years ago and currently exhibits evidence of structural distress and damage. Water is seeping into the plant through numerous cracks in the concrete walls which are attributed to past modifications to accommodate new equipment. In addition, the District has experienced lightning strikes to the elevated power transformers which have resulted in power outages to the pumping plant. A recent occurrence left the pumping plant without power for six weeks.
- Description:** To remedy this situation, the District is proposing a project to replace the existing pump station that includes the following main components:
- Construction of a new concrete substructure with roof

- Installation of 8 electric turbine pumps
- Replacement of existing power transformers with ground-level transformers that have lightning protection
- Installation of a diesel-powered back-up generator system
- Construction of tie-in channels to the Low-Line and High-Line Canals

BECC Certification: September 25, 2003

NADB Funding: Water Conservation Investment Fund (WCIF):
Grant: US\$4,000,000

These funds will be applied towards the construction costs.

Other Funding Sources: Additional grant funding will be provided by State of Texas through an agreement with the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) and federal appropriations. The District will cover the rest of the costs with its own resources.

Benefits: The new pumping station will significantly reduce energy requirements, as well as improve water conveyance efficiency. Annual water savings are estimated at 2,171 ac-ft/yr, and energy savings at 721,904 kwh/yr. In addition, the new transformers and back-up generator will minimize the risk of power failures.

For more information, contact Juan Antonio Flores,
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