



**NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
FACT SHEET
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS**

- Project:** Water and Wastewater Project for the Lower Valley Water District
- Cost:** US\$100,350,600
- Sponsor:** Lower Valley Water District (LVWD)
- Location:** The Lower Valley Water District is located in the southern portion of El Paso County, Texas, adjacent to the city limits of the city of El Paso and across the Rio Grande from Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.
- Background:** The Lower Valley Water District is a conservation and reclamation district and a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Its service jurisdiction covers approximately 200 square miles in El Paso County and includes the jurisdictions of two incorporated municipalities: Socorro and San Elizario. Of the 122 *colonias* in El Paso County, approximately 86, with a population of about 45,000, are located within the jurisdiction of the District.
- The District provides water and wastewater services in its area, including installation of hookups, delivery of water, collection of wastewater, system operations and maintenance, as well as administrative functions, such as billing, collection of fees, etc. Water and wastewater are treated by the El Paso Public Service Board (PSB).
- The District is in the process of upgrading and expanding its installations in order to increase the number of customers and population served from the current 7,771 water-only customers (representing approximately 36,317 people) to nearly 20,000 water and wastewater customers (representing about 70,000 people) by the year 2015.
- Description:** The District's current water and wastewater projects have been divided into three design and construction phases.
- Phase I – This phase, which included water extensions to six subdivisions in the city of Socorro and the installation of master meters, was completed in 1994.
- Phase II – This phase consisted of the construction of major wastewater interceptors, lift stations, large diameter water transmission lines, and storage facilities.

Phase III – In this phase, major wastewater interceptors were installed within the right-of-way of the El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1, and collector mains and six lift stations were constructed. Water facilities include a booster station at the Jonathan Rogers Water Treatment Plant, transmission mains and a reservoir. Also included in this phase is the construction of wastewater collection systems and water distribution lines within many of the subdivisions in Socorro and San Elizario, as well as 1,550 residential hookups.

Only Phases II and III of the project were certified by the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC).

BECC Certification: June 24, 1998

NADB Funding: Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF)
Construction Grant Assistance: US\$ 9,020,762
Transition Grant Assistance: US\$ 2,000,000
Total US\$11,020,762

The transition assistance was applied towards debt service on the project so that user fees can be increased in a gradual and affordable manner.

Institutional Development Cooperation Program (IDP)

NADB also financed a management study aimed at providing an organizational plan and policies for administering and operating the expanded water and wastewater system efficiently, as well as a water and wastewater rate study.

Other Funding Sources:

Other funding sources for phases II and III of the project included loans and grants from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) through its Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP), and from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD); grants from the EPA-funded *Colonia* Wastewater Treatment Assistance Program (CWTAP) administered by the TWDB; state revolving fund loans; and LVWD revenues and reserves. The District also received a grant from the BECC Project Development Assistance Program (PDAP) for design of Phase III components.

Benefits:

This project is improving the delivery and quality of potable water supply and wastewater treatment services for residents of economically distressed areas in the district, including the communities of Socorro and San Elizario, and approximately 86 *colonias*.

For more information, contact Juan Antonio Flores,
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