



**NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
FACT SHEET  
TECATE, BAJA CALIFORNIA**

- Project:** Improvement and Expansion of the Water and Wastewater Systems
- Cost:** US\$9,725,730
- Sponsor:** The local water utility, *Comisión Estatal de Servicios Públicos de Tecate* (CESPTe)
- Location:** The city of Tecate is located in the northwestern portion of the state of Baja California, between Tijuana to the west and Mexicali to the east. It shares the U.S.-Mexico border with Tecate, California.
- Background:** In 1998, approximately 92 percent of the community had water service, while the remaining 8 percent received water by means of trucks owned by the city or private individuals. In addition, 84 percent of the community received sanitary sewerage services. The remainder of the community used latrines and septic tanks to dispose of their raw sewage.
- The current wastewater treatment plant was built in 1977 with a capacity of 2.3 million gallons per day (mgd); however, the plant closed after three months because it did not comply with the required standards. The plant was expanded in 1992 and reopened in 1995 with a total treatment capacity of 4.6 mgd. Although the plant has the capacity to treat all the influent received, the quality of the treated effluent has been adversely affected by the lack of an industrial pretreatment program. The presence of toxic contaminants in the influent is inhibiting the plant's biological process. The effluent from the plant is discharged directly into the Tecate River.
- Description:** This three-phase project is designed to expand and improve the water distribution and wastewater collection systems, as well as improve the wastewater treatment processes.
- Phase I was built during the 1999-2000 period for a total cost of US\$2.24 million and was funded by Mexican state and federal funds. Water system works included replacement, relocation, and installation of water meters; construction of water distribution lines and new residential intakes; a new potable chlorinating system; and the installation of sectioning valves and hydrants. Sewerage system works consisted of the expansion of sewer lines and residential connections.

Phase II was implemented during 2002 for a total cost of US\$3.35 million and was funded by Mexican state and federal funds, as well as a BEIF grant. Water system works included new domestic intakes; replacement, relocation and installation of water meters and distribution lines; a new regulating tank and new water recovery tank; construction of water conveyance lines; and new sectioning valves and hydrants. Sewerage works included the construction of sewer lines and residential connections.

Phase III, with an estimated cost of US\$4.13 million, covers the rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plant. Works for this phase were initiated in December 2003 with Mexican funding.

**BECC Certification:** June 22, 2000

**NADB Funding:** Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF):  
Construction Grant Assistance: US\$4,368,780

Loan & Guaranty Program:  
Market-rate loan US\$ 610,457

The loan proceeds will be used to finance rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plant.

Institutional Development Cooperation Program (IDP):  
The Bank provided additional assistance through the IDP for a water and wastewater study and a management information system needs assessment.

**Other Funding Sources:** Equity from CESPTe and grants from the Mexican national water commission, *Comision Nacional del Agua* (CNA) and other Mexican state and local funds.

**Benefits:** With the execution of this project, 93 percent of the local residents will receive sewerage services, and 97 percent will have access to water distribution services. In addition, the well-being of the region's population will be improved by ensuring that the wastewater is treated properly and that raw sewage is not discharged into the Tecate River, thus improving the quality of the river water.

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