

State Water Resources Control Board

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STATE WATER BOARD GIVES \$2.68 MILLION FOR UPGRADES, HELPS WILLOWS CELEBRATE WASTEWATER PLANT

WILLOWS – This California community north of Sacramento celebrated the upgrading of its wastewater treatment plant today with state and federal officials attending. Executive Director Celeste Cantú represented the State Water Resources Control Board, which gave \$2.68 million in Small Community and Water Recycling grants to help pay for the project.

“This is truly an example of state money at work to improve the environment and help municipalities. This project will help Willows meet new waste discharge requirements, which in turn will help to protect one of California’s most precious resources, our water supply,” said Ms. Cantú. “The project also meets another goal critical to California’s future; increasing the supply of recycled water. The recycled water this treatment plant will produce will save fresh water for other important purposes.”

Under Secretary Thomas Dorr represented USDA Rural Development, which provided a loan to Willows to cover the balance of the approximate \$9 million total in construction costs for the treatment plant upgrade.

The treatment plant project will help Willows in a couple of ways. The facility is being expanded to handle an increased capacity and upgraded to provide tertiary wastewater treatment. (Tertiary is advanced cleaning of wastewater that goes beyond the secondary or biological stage, removing nutrients and suspended solids.) The tertiary process will produce water to be recycled by the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.

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