



October 23, 2008

Contact:  
Judy Edwardh Black  
336-474-0766  
jblack@map-inc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MAP training program benefits tribal utility managers**

NEW PRAGUE, Minn., October 23, 2008 – Ask any infrastructure expert what ensures the success of a utility project, and they'll tell you, "good management." To help managers of tribal utilities receive the training and support they need, Midwest Assistance Program, Inc., is conducting an intensive management training program in Montana with the Crow Utility Authority, Crow Agency, and the Northern Cheyenne Utility Commission, Lame Deer.

The goal of this innovative training is to give utility managers and field staff the skills they need to maintain and improve the operation of their water and wastewater systems. The training will cover essential topics including improving budgeting methods, setting reasonable water rates, providing community education and communication, establishing a record-keeping system and developing procedural manuals, as well as hands-on operations, maintenance and troubleshooting techniques.

MAP's tribal utility management training services program is funded by the Indian Health Services. At the option of the HIS, and if funding allows, MAP also may implement a similar program at Prairie Mountain Utility on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Mont.

Midwest Assistance Program, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping rural communities in a nine-state area improve their environment, quality of life and achieve self sustainability. MAP helps revitalize small communities by working with them to find solutions for their infrastructure, enterprise development, aging, technology or training issues. It's a member of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership, a national, rural community development network. MAP is an equal-opportunity lender, provider and employer. It's also an approved vendor of the General Services Administration.