



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS \$94,500
TO OAK MOUNTAIN COUNTRY ESTATES OWNERS ASSOCIATION**
Funds Will Be Used to Provide Secondary Water Supply

(Sturgis, South Dakota – April 21, 2008) The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development South Dakota Area Director Tim Potts and Specialist Nancy Clarke today presented Oak Mountain Country Estates Owners Association with a rural utilities direct water loan in the amount of \$94,500 for system improvements.

“The improvements made through this project will provide for the continuation of services to the 34 families living in the Oak Mountain Country Estates sub-division,” said Rural Development State Director Mike Jaspers. “USDA Rural Development is committed to providing investment financing and an improved quality of life for local residents.”

Oak Mountain Country Estates Owners Association is a South Dakota non-profit corporation. The association has a sub-division located in Deadwood. The sub-division currently has its own well and distribution system. However, the system no longer provides for the needs of the sub-division especially during the summer months, peak flow situations and fire protection. The federal funds will be used to provide a secondary water supply. The City of Deadwood owns and operates a well located near the existing water purification and pumping station. Water will be purchased from the City of Deadwood and a transmission line will be installed to deliver water to the existing distribution system. The federal funding will be leveraged with an applicant contribution of \$2,000 and a State Consolidated Water Assistance Planning Grant in the amount of \$6,000 for a total project cost of \$102,500.

“We’re pleased that USDA Rural Development was able to assist our subdivision with this project. Without the water system upgrade, we would have had to really restrict our water usage in our development,” said Jerome Harvey, President of Oak Mountain Country Estates sub-division.

In South Dakota, Rural Development provides valuable loan and grant programs, loan guarantees and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Rural Development invested more than \$259 million in fiscal year 2007 and \$1.9 billion over the past 10 years in South Dakota’s economy.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested more than \$76.8 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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