



NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

JANET COWELL, TREASURER

June 15, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kerra L. Bolton (919) 807-3132

TREASURER COWELL ANNOUNCES \$13.9 MILLION FOR PROJECTS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

RALEIGH – State Treasurer Janet Cowell announced today that \$13.9 million in federal economic recovery has been approved by the Local Government Commission, which she chairs, to be invested in water and waste water projects in Western North Carolina.

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources administers this funding through its Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program and its Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program.

More than 70 projects have been approved statewide totaling \$83.3 million as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Of the \$120 million available for the program, \$43.1 million and \$40.2 million have been approved respectively.

The loans help local governments because they are interest-free and only half of the principal amount has to be repaid.

Regional highlights include:

- Highlands will use its \$3 million loan to extend sewer service to residents in the Mirror Lake area and to replace failing septic systems.
- Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority received \$3 million to help expand capacity and make design improvements to the decades-old plant.
- The Buncombe County Metropolitan Sewer District received more than \$1 million to replace an old sewer line. This enables the community to reduce costs and increase capacity to serve additional users. It also reduces preserves the quality of groundwater.
- Marion will use \$2.6 million to construct a pump station and open a main connection to the Corpensing Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

“My office is working diligently to help local communities take advantage of the federal stimulus program to meet their critical infrastructure needs,” Treasurer Cowell said. “These projects improve water quality while providing jobs and bolstering the economy.”

Additional information on these projects and other economic recovery projects can be found at www.ncrecovery.gov.

Below is a list of all approved projects in the region:

WASTEWATER / STORMWATER

Highlands	\$3,000,000
Tuckaseegee W&S Authority	\$3,000,000
Marion	\$2,601,364
Buncombe Co. MSD	\$1,029,600
Murphy	\$771,500
Columbus (Town)	\$280,600
Bryson City	\$166,524

WATER

Clay County	\$1,073,289
Maggie Valley Sanit. Dist	\$1,021,020
Andrews	\$715,326
Montreat	\$313,000

TOTAL
\$13,972,223