



**Rural Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Management
District No. 6, Grady County**

P O Box 37
Amber, OK 73004
Ph. 405.459.6626 TDD 711 Fax 405.459.6623

Senator Inhofe,

As the System Manger of Grady County RWD #6, a rural community with a population of approximately 3750, I am writing to request your direct assistance. As you are aware, the President's "America First" FY 2018 Budget proposes to eliminate the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program.

USDA's Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program has been the affordable financing solution for our needs and for similar communities throughout rural Oklahoma. Many rate payers simply can't afford commercial or private financing with the prevailing rates and terms. We, like thousands of similar rural communities, are concerned that without this affordable financing, small and rural communities across this nation will not be able to address their critical water and wastewater needs.

These vital rural infrastructure funding tools help small communities like Grady Co RWD #6 enhance and protect their economic health and vitality. USDA has been our partner for decades in this endeavor and we must continue to protect and improve our infrastructure in order to make our rural communities thrive.

Grady Co RWD #6 has grown 9% in the last fifteen years from 1350 benefit unit to approximately 1500 benefit units. Thanks to the USDA Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program, Grady Co RWD #6 received loan monies of \$12,800,000, and improved the infrastructure by:

- a. Drilling two wells producing 500 gallons per minute (gpm) each.
- b. Installed 75 miles of water lines ranging from 12" to 4".
- c. Erected three new water towers increasing storage by 2.5 million gallons.
- d. Built a new office.
- e. Reduced cost structure that previously purchased system water at \$3.00 per thousand gallons to purchasing ground water for .35 cents per thousand gallons.
- f. The Water System was able to hire two additional operators.

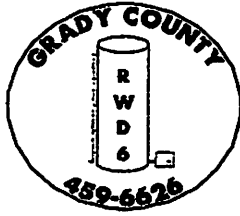
We now can take care of the system as needed.

I respectfully request that you include funding for the USDA Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant in the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee's fiscal year 2018 appropriations bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued commitment and assistance to rural America.

Sincerely,

Paul Jones
System Manager
Grady Co RWD #6



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Senator Lankford,

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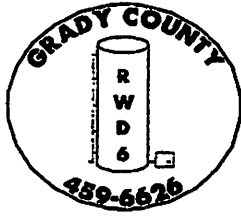
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Congressman Cole,

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