



GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

Nathan Deal
Governor

Kevin Clark
Executive Director

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GEFA Approves Environmental Infrastructure Projects Totaling \$60.7 Million for Seven Georgia Communities

ATLANTA – Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Executive Director Kevin Clark announced today the approval of financing for environmental infrastructure projects in seven Georgia communities totaling \$60,742,164. The GEFA board of directors approved the commitments to help finance water and sewer infrastructure improvements for Cobb, Cook and Newton Counties; Cusseta-Chattahoochee County; and the cities of College Park, Ludowici and Valdosta.

“The water, sewer and solid waste programs administered by GEFA assist local governments with improving their environmental infrastructure,” said Clark. “Financing water, sewer and solid waste projects encourages economic growth and the stewardship of our environment.”

Clark expressed appreciation to Gov. Deal and to the members of the General Assembly for their support. He credited the state’s commitment to helping cities and counties finance infrastructure development as one of the main contributors to GEFA’s success.

“GEFA financing for water, sewer and solid waste infrastructure helps communities in all areas of the state,” said Grady Thompson, chairman of the GEFA board of directors and chairman of the Tift County board of commissioners. “The projects that we agreed to finance today demonstrate that GEFA is investing in communities that are willing to invest in themselves.”

GEFA helps communities prepare for economic growth and development through the provision of low-interest loans.

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is a federal loan program administered by GEFA for water infrastructure projects. Eligible projects include public health-related water supply construction.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) is a federal loan program administered by GEFA for wastewater infrastructure and water pollution abatement projects. Eligible projects include a wide variety of storm water and wastewater collection and treatment projects.

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The Georgia Fund is a state-funded program administered by GEFA for water, wastewater and solid waste infrastructure projects. The program has maximum flexibility and accessibility, and offers fast loan approvals. The Georgia Fund provides loans to local governments for projects such as water and sewer lines, treatment plants, pumping stations, wells, water storage tanks and water meters. Low-interest loans from this program are available up to \$3 million.

Below are details of the loans approved today:

Cobb County

Cobb County was approved for a CWSRF loan of \$35,000,000. The loan will finance phase five of a multiphase project. Phase five consists of constructing a 30,000 foot long deep rock tunnel, several connecting tunnels and a 130 million gallon per day lift station at the South Cobb Water Reclamation Facility. GEFA previously approved \$130,000,000 for the first four phases of the project. Cobb County will pay 3 percent interest on the 20-year loan for \$35,000,000.

Cook County

Cook County was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$2,754,664. The Georgia Fund loan will finance construction of the first of seven cells in phase two of the county's municipal solid waste landfill project. Cook County will pay 3.31 percent interest on the six-year loan for \$2,754,664. Georgia Fund policy reduces the current interest rate of 3.81 by .50 percent to communities that have earned the Community of Opportunity designation from the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), which Cook County obtained in 2010.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County was approved for a DWSRF loan of \$400,000 to finance rehabilitating and replacing distribution lines in order to reduce water loss because of water line leakage. Cusseta-Chattahoochee County will pay 3 percent interest on the 20-year loan for \$400,000, receiving up to \$200,000 in principal forgiveness if all loan funds are drawn.

Newton County

Newton County was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$1,000,000 to finance construction of phase two at the county's municipal solid waste landfill. GEFA previously approved \$3,000,000 for the first phase of the project. Newton County will pay 3.81 percent interest on the 20-year loan for \$1,000,000.

City of College Park

The city of College Park was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$3,000,000 to finance sewer system improvements, replace water lines and install radio read meters. The city of College Park will pay 3.81 percent interest on the 20-year loan for \$3,000,000.

City of Ludowici

The city of Ludowici was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$87,500 to improvements at its wastewater treatment facility, including rehabilitating flow control structures and installing electrical power supply. The city of Ludowici will pay 3.81 percent interest on the 10-year loan for \$87,500.

City of Valdosta

The city of Valdosta was approved for a CWSRF loan of \$18,500,000 to finance phase two of the Mud Creek Water Pollution Control Plant project, which includes increasing capacity from 3.2 million gallons per day (GPD) to 5.7 million GPD, and additional improvements and modifications to the facility. Valdosta will also design a new solids treatment system. The city of Valdosta will pay 3 percent interest on the 20-year loan for \$18,500,000.

Cities and counties interested in more information regarding GEFA loans should visit www.gefa.org or call 404-584-1000.

About the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (www.gefa.org)

The [Georgia Environmental Finance Authority](http://www.gefa.org) (GEFA) provides energy, land and water resources resulting in an improved quality of life for today and future generations. GEFA is the lead agency for state energy programs and is home to the Center of Innovation for Energy; directs the Georgia Land Conservation Program and maintains state-owned fuel storage tanks; and offers financing for reservoir and water supply, water quality, storm water and solid waste infrastructure. Since 1985, GEFA has approved financial commitments totaling more than \$3 billion to local governments, businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.gefa.org, [Facebook](#) or [Flickr](#).

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