



Nathan Deal
Governor

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

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Executive Director

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GEFA Approves Environmental Infrastructure Projects Totaling \$8.9 Million for Four Georgia Communities

ATLANTA – Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Executive Director Kevin Clark announced today the approval of financing for environmental infrastructure projects in four Georgia communities totaling \$8,942,000. The GEFA board of directors approved the commitments to help finance water and sewer infrastructure improvements for the cities of Dillard, Donalsonville, Pooler and Winder.

“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.

The Georgia Fund is a state-funded program 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.

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Below are details of the loans approved today:

City of Dillard

The city of Dillard was approved for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan of \$750,000 to finance installing water lines connecting the city's sewer customers to its new water system. Dillard will pay zero percent interest on the 20-year loan of \$750,000, which includes a Disadvantaged Community subsidy of up to \$250,000 if all loan funds are drawn.

City of Donalsonville

The city of Donalsonville was approved for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan of \$6,000,000 to finance an upgrade to the existing water pollution control plant from 400,000 gallons per day to 1 million gallons per day. Donalsonville will pay 3 percent interest on the 20-year loan of \$6,000,000, which includes principal forgiveness of up to \$500,000 if all loan funds are drawn.

City of Pooler

The city of Pooler was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$992,000 to finance constructing a well and installing 3,245 linear feet of water main. Pooler will pay 3.44 percent interest on the 15-year loan for \$992,000.

City of Winder

The city of Winder was approved for a Georgia Fund loan of \$1,200,000 to finance installing 12,000 linear feet of water main. Winder will pay 2.44 percent interest on the 10-year loan of \$1,200,000. Georgia Fund policy reduces the current interest rate by 1 percent to communities that have earned the WaterFirst designation from the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), which recognizes communities for excellence in water stewardship. Winder was awarded the WaterFirst designation in 2010.

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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