



Nathan Deal
Governor

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

Kevin Clark
Executive Director

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GEFA Approves Infrastructure Loans Totaling \$3.5 Million for Three Georgia Communities *Approved Loans Include Water and Energy Efficiency Projects*

ATLANTA – Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Executive Director Kevin Clark announced today the approval of financing for environmental infrastructure projects in three Georgia communities totaling \$3,490,463. The GEFA executive committee approved the commitments to help finance water infrastructure improvements for the town of Alto, the Sinclair Water Authority and Paulding County.

“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 drinking water infrastructure projects. Eligible projects include a wide variety of public health or compliance related water supply projects. The DWSRF guidelines also allow funding for “green” projects such as energy efficiency at water facilities, and water efficiency projects.

The Georgia Reservoir and Water Supply Fund provides low-interest loans for water supply projects, including reservoir construction and expansion.

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Below are details of the loans approved today:

Town of Alto

The town of Alto was approved for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan of \$539,863 to finance replacing leaking galvanized iron water mains with more than 13,000 linear feet of PVC water main. Fire hydrants will also be installed, along with an overflow control valve in the existing elevated water storage tank to reduce water loss. Alto will pay 1.13 percent interest on the 20-year loan of \$539,863, which includes principal forgiveness of up to \$147,709 if all loan funds are drawn. This loan qualifies for a reduced interest rate because it is a water conservation project.

Sinclair Water Authority

The Sinclair Water Authority was approved for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) green project loan of \$150,000 to finance installing a new raw water pump and variable frequency drive at the existing raw water pump station, which will increase the pump station's reliability and energy efficiency. The Sinclair Water Authority will pay 2.13 percent interest on the 20-year loan of \$150,000, which includes principal forgiveness of up to \$30,000, if all loan funds are drawn.

Paulding County

Paulding County was approved for a Georgia Reservoir and Water Supply loan of \$2,800,600 to finance the necessary environmental engineering surveys and studies required to obtain a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers for constructing Richland Creek Reservoir. Paulding County will pay 3.13 percent interest on the 10-year loan of \$2,800,600. The total cost is \$2,800,600, with GEFA funding the entire amount.

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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