



Explorer

Lewis & Clark
REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM

SPRING 2009

Lewis & Clark Receives \$27M for FY09

The project received great news in late February when the FY09 omnibus spending bill was finally approved. It included a record \$27M for Lewis & Clark (L&C), surpassing last year by close to \$500,000.

Given the down economy and considering this funding process began with the previous Administration proposing zero for L&C in its FY09 Budget, the \$27M is testament to the incredibly strong support and effective leadership of our entire tri-state congressional delegation, with the SD delegation again taking the

lead. L&C is so thankful to Senators Tim Johnson, John Thune, Chuck Grassley, Tom Harkin, Amy Klobuchar, Representatives Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, Steve King and Tim Walz. Their bi-partisan efforts across state and party lines continue to be a hallmark of L&C's success. L&C also thanks The Bockorny Group for their great work.

Looking ahead, L&C is again requesting \$35M for FY10. This is the annual amount needed to complete the System by 2020.

In other funding news, L&C was very pleased the SD Legislature approved

\$6.3M for the project. The goal is to pre-pay the State's remaining share by 2010 (another \$6.3M remains). Along with the members, pre-payment by the states (IA and MN have already pre-paid) helps L&C make a stronger case for increased Federal funding, allows L&C to move forward more quickly with construction and saves the taxpayers money by avoiding inflationary increases. L&C thanks Governor Mike Rounds, the State Legislature, Department of Environment & Natural Resources and Board of Water & Natural Resources for their unwavering support.

Project "Well Situated" for Possible Stimulus Funding

Lewis & Clark (L&C) officials have been working closely with the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) regarding L&C's construction capabilities to utilize possible economic stimulus funding. These efforts were stepped up when the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was signed into law on February 17 including a meeting in Washington, D.C. with key BoR officials on February 26.

As part of the legislation, a range of \$60M to \$300+M has been set

aside for BoR's seven rural water projects, depending on construction capabilities and Reclamation's other water related priorities. There are no earmarks in the bill, so it is up to BoR to determine how to allocate the Recovery Act funding, which is expected to be announced sometime in April. Without making any promises, Reclamation officials have indicated L&C is "well situated" based on its construction capabilities.



Senator John Thune sizes up the 54" pipe near Vermillion on 4/6. He said, "It reminds me of the large culverts we used to ride our bikes through by Murdo." Thune, who has been a tireless project supporter through the years, said "it's nice to see the result of all that effort and hard work."

Chairman's Report - Red Arndt

We have probably made over 50 trips to Washington, D.C. since 1990. While the flights to and from Washington and the seemingly inevitable delays and cancellations have gotten very old and tiresome, meeting with elected officials to share our enthusiasm and passion for this critically needed project never gets old or tiring. That is true now more than ever as we update them on the construction progress being made and how water is now being delivered to three of our members. We have a great message to share about Lewis & Clark, and the merits of the project are without question.

Even so, it doesn't sell itself like the "Sham-Wow" on television. There are plenty of other worthy projects that garner the time and attention of committee leaders.

Although our funding has been steadily increasing and support outside the tri-state congressional delegation continues to build, we need to work harder than ever to build upon the growing funding and construction momentum. Receiving funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act would be a huge boost for us and help make up some of the four

years we are behind schedule.

We need to continue pounding the pavement and ensuring our message is being heard on a regular basis, not just the couple times a year we are in Washington. To that end, the team at The Bockorny Group, as well as other lobbyists we have had through the years, have been invaluable. It takes everyone working together. I am truly honored to be part of such an outstanding team and such a worthwhile project.



Phase 1 Construction Continues; Phase 2 Bid Letting in May

Foley Company of Kansas City, MO, continued working through the winter on Phase 1 of the water treatment plant (WTP). Construction began last September. Located three miles north of Vermillion along Highway 19, this \$20.8M contract includes a three million gallon underground reservoir, pump station, electrical building and two standby generators. This is separate infrastructure from the main WTP building.

The underground reservoir, which will hold three million gallons of treated water, is 238' long and 149' wide and has a maximum depth of 28'. It is divided into two parts – the wetwell and the clearwell. Foley focused this winter on excavating the wetwell portion and pouring the concrete floor. This spring, Foley began putting up the walls for the wetwell and excavating the clearwell directly to the north (see photo below). The deadline for substantial completion is August 2010.

Phase 2, which includes the main WTP building, has been advertised and is scheduled for bid opening on May 21. Developing the plans and specs for Phase 2 involved a great deal of work by the engineers at Banner Associates and HDR Engineering. The completion of Phase 2 (substantial completion deadline is March 2012) will give Lewis & Clark the treatment capacity of up to 34 million gallons a day (MGD), depending on bid alternates selected. Current well capacity is 19 MGD. Phase 3 would expand the plant's capacity to the originally planned 45 MGD and will be bid when more capacity is needed. It is anticipated all 20 members will be connected before Phase 3 is bid.



Pipeline Construction Update

Lewis & Clark currently has 86 miles of mainly 54" pipe in the ground, with another four miles still under construction (see progress map on page 5). By this fall, the main trunk line between the Missouri River and Sioux Falls is expected to be completed. The "emergency connections" for Tea, Harrisburg and Hull, which utilize temporary water sources, are operating well. Below is an update on the two pipeline projects still underway.

Treated Water Pipeline – Segment 6/7A:

SJ Louis (SJL) this spring resumed clean up and pressure testing on this 11 mile segment of 54" steel pipe in northern Clay County. SJL is pressure testing individual sections of pipe between isolation gate valves. The deadline for substantial completion was December 2008.

Treated Water Pipeline – Segment 8/7B:

Don Kelly Construction (DKC) kept working through the winter on this 11 mile segment of 54" steel pipe in southern Clay County (see photo below). As of early-April, they have installed seven miles. Weather permitting DKC anticipates installing the last of the 54" pipe sometime in June and then will begin pressure testing. This is the final segment of the main trunk line between the Missouri River and Sioux Falls. DKC completed the challenging task of crossing the Vermillion River. The river was dammed and the flow redirected through two 48" culverts. DKC then dug a trench under the culverts on the other side of the earthen dam (see two inset photos). The deadline for substantial completion is December 2009.



Lewis & Clark Officials Encouraged by Washington, D.C. Meetings

Chairman Red Arndt from Luverne, Sioux Falls Mayor Dave Munson, Director Jim Hoyer from Rock Rapids and Executive Director Troy Larson were in Washington, D.C. on February 24 - 26 to meet with the tri-state Congressional delegation and senior staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Bureau of Reclamation (BoR). They were joined at some of the meetings by Director Scott Hain from Worthington, Sioux Center Mayor Dennis Walstra and Sioux Center's former utility manager, Harold Schiebout, who were already in D.C. for other meetings.



Arndt, Wolz and Hain

The two main topics of the meetings were economic stimulus funding, which had not passed at that time, and the FY10 Budget. Project officials outlined Lewis & Clark's (L&C) construction capabilities for utilizing stimulus funding and stressed



Schiebout, King and Hoyer

the importance of increased funding in the FY10 Budget. They met with Senators Tim Johnson, John Thune, Chuck Grassley and Representatives Stephanie Herseth



Arndt, Larson, Herseth Sandlin and Munson

Sandlin, Steve King and Tim Walz. Each voiced their continued fervent support for the project. L&C officials also met with the staffs of Senators Tom Harkin, Amy Klobuchar and Representative Colin Peterson. In addition, the group met with senior members of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the BoR to discuss the economic stimulus legislation.



Larson, Hoyer, Arndt, Munson and Johnson

All the meetings went very well and it is clear the congressional and agency support for L&C is stronger than

ever. Project leaders came away very encouraged about the possibility of receiving stimulus funding and continued funding in the FY10 Budget. In follow up to the meetings, the Senators and Representatives sent joint letters from their respective chambers to the Office of Management and Budget urging



Hoyer and Grassley

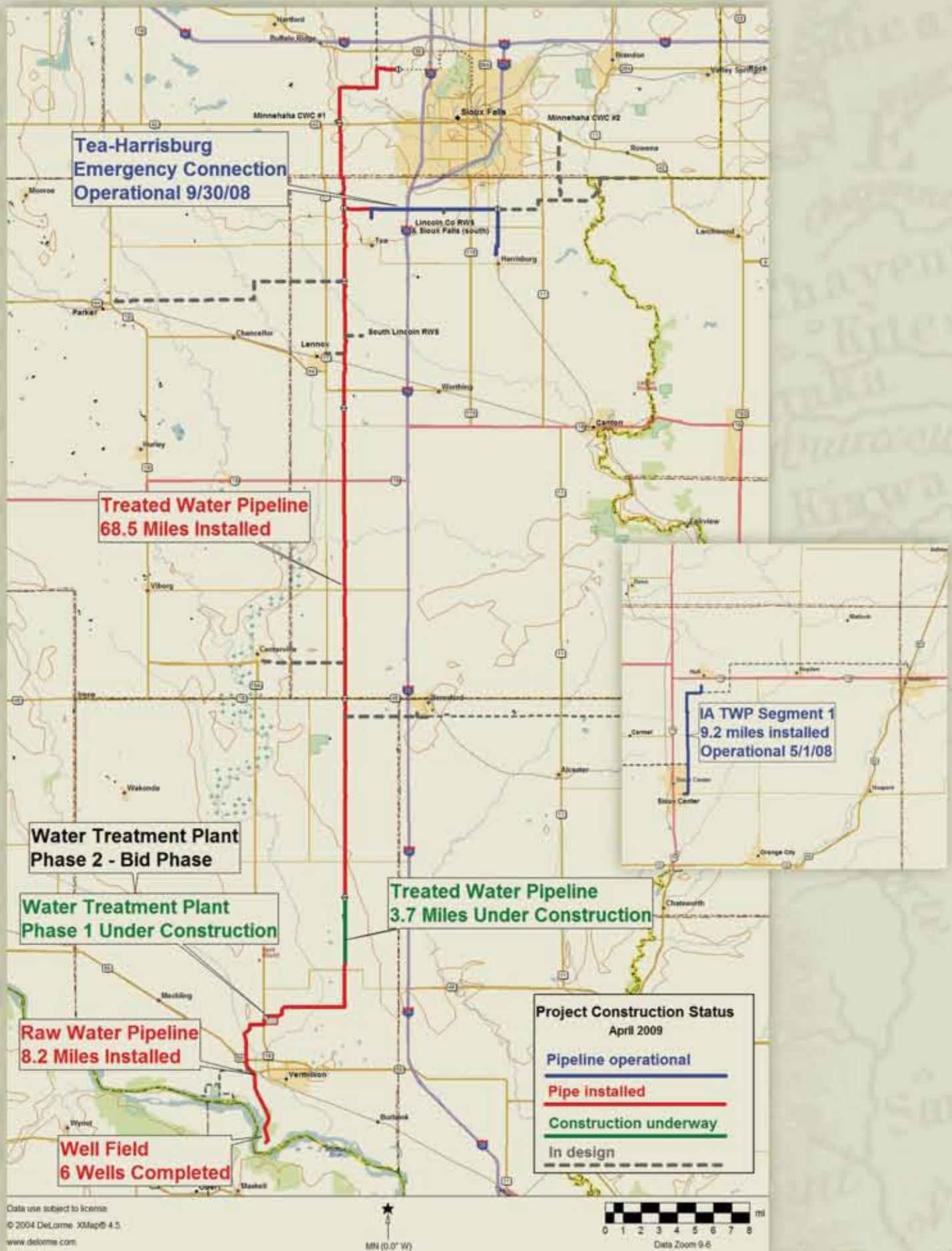
the Administration to include \$35M for L&C in its proposed FY10 Budget. It is anticipated the Administration will announce in May how much it is proposing for L&C in the FY10 Budget.

Lewis & Clark Regional Water System Staff:

Troy Larson, Executive Director
Jim Auen, Water Plant Superintendent
Dan Zulkosky, Construction Administrator
Lori Seten, Office Manager
Phone: 605.336.8688 Fax: 605.336.8696

tlarson@lcrws.org
jauen@lcrws.org
dzulkosky@lcrws.org
lseten@lcrws.org





Water Treatment Plant - Phase 1

Covering the under drain system of the wetwell with select fill materials.



2' thick concrete floor for the wetwell.



Mats of rebar being placed for the 3' thick walls of the wetwell.

