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## **OLDHAM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **OLDHAM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT TO CONSTRUCT WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

Approximately five years ago, the Oldham County Water District developed a twenty-year master plan. That plan includes a program for upgrade and expansion of the District's facilities to provide the capacity and redundancy to supply safe and clean drinking water to the District's customers. This includes the capacity needed during times of extraordinary water demand such as what was experienced during the drought of the summer of 2007.

On October 8, 2009, the District received bids for the construction of three projects that comprise phase one of the master plan. The projects include two new wells, raw water and transmission mains, and a water treatment plant expansion. These projects will increase the District's capacity to acquire, treat and convey drinking water to its customers in the most cost-effective and reliable manner now and in the foreseeable future.

These three projects, and other improvements recently made by the District, will also improve the reliability of water service in the event of a power failure, such as the ones experienced by Oldham County in the Fall of 2008 and Spring of 2009. During those power failures the District was without commercial power for multiple days; however, because of previous improvements made to increase reliability we were able to maintain service to all District customers with no interruptions.

The District is receiving financing through the USDA Rural Development in the form of a low interest loan. The loan will aid in reducing the overall costs associated with these upgrades. However, even with keeping the related costs to a minimum, a rate adjustment is necessary. This increase will be approximately six dollars and eighty-five cents per month for the average residential household. The District has increased water rates only two other times in the last 28 years.

Construction will begin in January 2010. The rate adjustment will take effect at that time as well. The new facilities will be completed and placed in service as each portion is completed. Construction is expected to be finished in March 2011.

The Oldham County Water District is committed to providing quality drinking water and reliable service to its customers. These upgrades will help to ensure its continued ability to do that for the families, institutions, and businesses located in the portion of Oldham County that the District serves.