



ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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(Little Rock) - The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission announced today, approval of a grant in an amount up to \$47,000 to the Grand Prairie Regional Water Distribution District from the Arkansas Water Development Fund for a planning study for regionalization.

The Director will establish any additional grant terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

The Grand Prairie Regional Water Distribution District (GPRWDD) has demonstrated over 30 years of operation as a well-managed system, operated and financed as a large rural water system servicing the area between the Arkansas River, White River and South of Interstate 40. This system currently encompasses an area that is approximately 75 miles (north-south) by 40 miles (east-west). The original system, constructed in 1986, purchased water from Stuttgart and DeWitt and later adding a water treatment plant near Lonoke and a well field southwest of DeWitt. The 3,300 original customers have grown to 6,000 and the system now operates nine elevated water tanks. This continuously well managed system is in good financial condition.

"This study is proposed to determine the potential and improvements necessary to expand GPRWDD to other areas in the region, when and if regionalization is needed," said Mark Bennett, ANRC Water Development Division Manager.