

# WaterSmart

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for FY 2024 and FY 2025

Funding Opportunity No. R24AS00059

Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID)

Anderson Lateral Pipeline

Newell, South Dakota



Belle Fourche Irrigation District

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-

- May 7, 2024, the Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID) is located in Butte County, South Dakota, with district offices in Newell, South Dakota.
- Belle Fourche Irrigation District is a category A applicant. The Belle Fourche Unit is a Reclamation Facility owned by the United States and operated and maintained by the Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID).
- The Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID), located in western South Dakota, will install approximately 3480 feet of polyvinyl chloride plastic irrigation pipe, farmer turnouts (FTO), and valves in an open, unlined, earthen Anderson Lateral. Upgrading this project section will create water savings of approximately 480 acre-feet per year. This project will provide a more efficient and reliable water conveyance system while improving future “on-farm” improvements.
- The project will begin in October 2025 and be completed within approximately 24 days. In the event of any weather or technical delays, project completion is estimated to be in March 2026.
- The Belle Fourche Unit is a Reclamation Facility owned by the United States and operated and maintained by the Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID).

### Project Location

- The Belle Fourche Irrigation District has Newell, South Dakota, district offices in Butte County, South Dakota. This activity will take place on the Anderson Lateral, located at 44° 40' 45.9768" N Latitude and -103° 32' 18.2076" W longitude, approximately .64 miles from the nearest town of Nisland, South Dakota, and 7 miles from the city of Newell, South Dakota.

*Project Map See Appendix A*

*Project Abstract Summary See Appendix B*

Figure 1. Anderson Lateral



## TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

### Technical Project Description

BFID, with its team of experts, will service all equipment and prepare all employees with safety and training before the start of the project. We are committed to supplying all safety equipment to our dedicated employees. Once funding is available, all the pipes and appurtenances will be ordered and ready for construction, beginning in October 2025, once irrigation water is shut off for the season. Design drawing, NEPA, SHPO, and ROW have all been meticulously acquired, and the CEC (Categorical exclusion checklist) has been completed. This thorough planning, which leaves no stone unturned, ensures a smooth and efficient project execution. BFID will begin hauling pipe and equipment to the site with semi-trucks, skid steer, and backhoe and mobilizing them as soon as funds are available. Operators will then shoot the ditch for grade with the Caterpillar touch point feature on the excavator and install approximately 3480 feet of underground pipeline in an existing 3480-foot earthen, unlined lateral. BFID will begin construction with a 15-inch polyvinyl chloride plastic irrigation pipe for approximately 1780 feet and continue to install approximately 1700 feet of 12-inch polyvinyl chloride plastic irrigation pipe. BFID will install measuring devices, valves, valve wells, FTOs (Farmer Turnouts), and air vents. Once all the pipes are laid and buried, BFID will demobilize and reclaim the land using the dozer and other equipment, clean the construction area, and repair the O&M road with the Grader.

## Project Budget

Funding Plan and letters of funding commitment:

Budget Proposal:

- *See Appendix C for a complete Budget*
- *See Appendix D for a Budget Narrative*

## Required Permits or Approvals

- Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits. BFID has completed this project's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) requirements. Also, the Right of Way (ROW) was obtained previously. The Bureau of Reclamation has approved this project and completed the Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC). All permits are obtained.
- Identify and describe any engineering or design work explicitly performed supporting the proposed project. The BFID had one of our qualified employees design the pipeline. The Bureau of Reclamation then approved the design for the Anderson Lateral.
- Describe administrative actions required to implement the project. The BFID is necessary to track all work done on these projects. The Board of Directors has approved any administrative work required to maintain accurate records.
- Describe the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance. BFID started this project's environmental and cultural resources, and local reclamation has approved it.

## Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:

- This application does not overlap the proposed project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects regarding key personnel's activities, costs, or commitment.
- This project was not submitted for funding. If funding is made available and it is duplicative, BFID agrees to contact NOFO's point of contact and the GOTR (Grants Officer Technical Representative) immediately.

## Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

This section ensures that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or concerning Federal financial assistance agreements. A policy will be in place implementing specific guidelines as follows:

In the use of WaterSMART project funds, personnel, and other officials shall avoid any action which might result in or create the appearance of:

- Using their official position for private gain.
- Giving preferential treatment to any person.

- Losing complete independence or impartiality.
- Making an official decision outside of official channels.
- Affecting adversely the public's confidence in the integrity of the government or the Belle Fourche Irrigation District.”

#### *Appendix E-Applicant OCI Disclosure Certificate*

### Restrictions on lobbying.

- Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities. According to 43 CFR part 18 and 31 U.S.C. 1352, they must provide the required certifications and disclosures. BFID does not lobby or pay anyone to lobby for them.

### Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

BFID was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year.

*Certification Regarding Lobbying- See Attachment*

*Disclosure of Lobbying Activities- See Attachment*

*Letters of Support- Appendix F*

*Letter of Partnership Support*

*Official Resolution*

*Letters of Funding Commitment*

### Evaluation Criterion A-Project Benefits

Benefits to Category A Applicant's Water Delivery System: *Describe the expected benefits to the Category A applicant's water delivery system. Consider:*

- **Clearly Explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and customers.** The anticipated benefits to the district would be a water savings of approximately 480 acres per year. This project will also assist the landowner by making the area around the open ditch productive.
- **Will the project result in more efficient water supply management?** This project will result in more efficient water supply management, as the water will not run out at the end of the open lateral all summer, wasting into a natural drain.
- **Where will any conserved water result from the project, and how will it be used?** The water would sit in the dam and provide recreation possibilities, which could be used for other projects.
- **Are customers not getting their total water right at certain times of the year?** At certain times of the year, downstream water users are not allowed water if the upstream landowners are cutting their fields or using the water. The ditch is small and

seeps, so the users need to collaborate. The ditch riders also walk this ditch every time it is turned on to prevent flooding out fields due to debris in the lateral. BFID has difficulty delivering water to the landowner on the end of the lateral if everyone is irrigating, as the ditch is not big enough to provide enough water.

- ***Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls?*** Yes, piping this lateral will reduce the number of possible insurance claims. The Anderson Lateral seeps and overflows often flood adjacent fields and county roads. Usually, it also plugs with debris, causing issues with the unassessed acres getting wet.
- ***What are the consequences of not improving?*** If we fail to make this improvement, the insurance claims will become an issue. This impacts the landowner's ability to receive funding for on-farm improvements, as the ability to deliver water is conditional. Creating a closed-water conveyance system eliminates seepage, flooding, and evaporation.
- ***Are customer water restrictions currently required?*** Yes. At this time, the landowners are required to plan all irrigation actions together. They must take turns, be considerate of the landowners, and not disagree over water usage.
- ***Other Significant concerns support the need for the project.*** At this time, our landowners have been cordial. We now have new landowners. We want to repair this issue so they may make on-farm improvements and receive funding from NRCS.

**Broader Benefits:** *Describe the broader benefits expected to occur due to the project. Consider:*

Will the project improve broader water supply reliability at a sub-basin or basin scale? BFID will save approximately 480 acre-feet of water per year for the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin. This project and others like it increase the conservation in our area. The Missouri basin is arid, so all efforts to conserve it are appreciated.

- ***Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among regional water managers? Please explain.*** At this time, we communicate with other irrigation projects near us. We share information as needed or requested by other Districts and projects. This project will not increase collaboration.
- ***Is the project in an area that is experiencing, or has recently experienced, drought or water scarcity? Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale? Please explain.*** This area is not currently experiencing drought conditions. However, the area is known to dry up quickly and be in a drought area within days of rainfall. The prairie experiences harsh weather conditions.
- ***Will the project benefit species (e.g., federally threatened or endangered, a federally recognized candidate species, a state-listed species, or a species of particular recreational or economic importance)? Please explain.*** This project will have no adverse effect on any species. Currently, no federally recognized species have been known to live in the area, so it will not harm or benefit them.
- ***Will the proposed project positively impact/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area? (e.g., impacts on agriculture, environment,***



**recreation, and tourism)? Please explain.** By saving water, we will leave water in the reservoir for recreation. Also, by piping this Lateral, we will allow the landowners to irrigate as needed without worrying about waiting or drowning out the neighbors. It would impact agriculture as there would be water for other fields and farmers.

- **Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the District's water supply)?** Please explain. Once this is piped, the landowner will apply for funding from NRCS for on-farm improvements such as a pipeline or pivot.

**Evaluation Criterion B. Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (25 points)** Up to 25 points may be awarded based on the extent to which the proposed on-the-ground project is supported by an applicant's existing water management plan, water conservation plan, System Optimization Review, or identified as part of another planning effort led by the Category A applicant. This criterion prioritizes projects identified through local planning efforts and meeting local needs. Note: Project-specific planning and design for the project or other phases are considered in Criteria C – Implementation.

- **Plan Description and Objectives: Is your project supported by a specific planning document or effort? If so, describe the existing plan. When was the plan developed? What is the purpose and objective of the plan?**
- **Plan Development: Who developed the planning effort? What is the geographic scope of the plan? If the planning effort was not developed by the Category A applicant, describe the Category A applicant's involvement in developing the planning effort.** **Plan Description and Objectives: Is your project supported by a specific planning document or effort? If so, describe the existing plan. When was the plan developed? What is the purpose and objective of the plan?** Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program was established in 1944 when Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID) began flood control and other conservation efforts. Today (BFID) works with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) to maintain a water conservation effort. We are active with the local Watershed groups, Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), and the Belle Fourche River Compact. Currently, our effort is to upgrade the BFID infrastructure and improve water delivery by piping open Laterals and ditches. This planning effort was devised in the 1980s when the Bureau of Reclamation created a Rehabilitation and Betterment Program. This began our plan of upgrading and improving water storage to prepare for droughts. We encourage and support the installation of all pivots and private pipelines and on-farm improvements to conserve water.

**Support for the Project:** *Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan. Address the following:*



- **Is the project explicitly identified in the planning effort?** The BFID is a historic district with many open ditches and laterals. Our goal is to pipe the ditches and laterals that have lost integrity. So yes, this is part of our planning effort.
- **Explain whether the proposed project implements a goal or addresses a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort.** If an earthen ditch or lateral loses or loses its integrity, our policy is to try and pipe the earthen ditch or lateral to avoid transmission losses, transpiration, and waste. Anderson Lateral wastes approximately 480-acre feet of water per year. For a small project in a dry year, that is an astronomical amount of water. This does not include the water wasted if the BFID staff doesn't stay on task and carefully monitor the open ditch.
- **Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort instead of other potential projects/ measures.** BFID has a priority list of Laterals, and the Anderson Lateral has been on it for five years. This past season, the farmer, in the end, could not get his water as the ditch was failing.

**Evaluation Criterion C. Implementation and Results (20 points)** Up to 20 points may be awarded based on the extent to which the applicant can proceed with the proposed project upon entering into a financial assistance agreement. Applicants who describe a detailed plan (e.g., an estimated project schedule showing the proposed work's stages and duration, including significant tasks, milestones, and dates) will receive the most points under this criterion.

- **Describe the implementation plan for the proposed project. Please include an estimated project schedule showing the proposed work's stages and duration, including significant tasks, milestones, and dates.** The in-kind match BFID will provide will be equipment and person-hours, and it is assumed to take 23 days to complete this project. Two days to mobilize the equipment and haul PVC pipe and supplies to the Anderson Lateral. Demobilization will take three days to clean up, remove all equipment and debris, and repair the road. All labor and fringe benefits listed in this proposal are based on actual wages and fringe benefits as of July 5, 2024. Labor and fringe benefits are approximately \$50,651.50 and are spent as seen in the budget Narrative.

Figure 1 • Milestone Summary

<b>Complete environmental and cultural compliance</b>	<b>05/01/2023</b>	<b>05/7/2024</b>
<b>Procure Materials and Mobilize</b>	<b>06/10/2025</b>	<b>10/06/2025</b>
<b>Excavation and installation of pipe</b>	<b>10/09/2025</b>	<b>11/01/2026</b>
<b>Installation of valves, valve wells, and measuring devices</b>	<b>10/09/2025</b>	<b>04/01/2026</b>
<b>Demobilize and reclaim the area</b>	<b>11/07/2026</b>	<b>03/31/2027</b>
<b>Project closeout and submit a final report</b>	<b>03/31/2027</b>	<b>03/31/2027</b>

Budget Narrative: See Attachment

- **Describe any permits and agency approvals that will be required, along with the process and timeframe for obtaining such permits or approvals.** BIFD has obtained all permits and authorization for this project.
- **Identify and describe any engineering or design work supporting the proposed project. What level of engineering design is the project currently? If additional design is required, describe the planned process and timeline for completing the design.** A BIFD employee completed the design, and the BOR engineers approved it.
- **Does the applicant have access to the land or water source where the project is located? Has the applicant obtained any easements required for the project? If the applicant does not yet have permission to access the project location, describe the process and timeframe for obtaining such permission.** BIFD has easements for this section of the Lateral. All paperwork for this location is complete.
- **Identify whether the applicant has contacted the local Reclamation office to discuss the project's potential environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements and associated costs. Has a line item been included in the budget for costs associated with compliance? If a contractor needs to complete some of the compliance activities, separate line items should be included in the budget for reclamation costs and the contractor's costs.** BIFD has completed the CEC (Categorical Exclusion Checklist) but has not contacted the BOR to discuss the cost of the NEPA and SHPO. BIFD figured in \$3000.00 to cover these costs and any other costs for the BOR compliance. BIFD does not hire contractors for these types of jobs.

Evaluation Criterion D. **Nexus to Reclamation (5 Points)** Up to 5 points may be awarded based on the extent to which the proposal demonstrates a nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project or activity. Describe the nexus between the proposed project and a Reclamation project or activity, including BIFD attempts to return disturbed land to a useful state.

- **Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity? If so, how? Please consider whether the applicant has a water service, repayment, or operations and maintenance(O&M) contract with Reclamation.** Yes, BIFD was the second project undertaken by Reclamation. With the passing of the Reclamation Act of 1902, the construction of the Reservoir began in 1906. The Belle Valley Water Users' Association negotiated a repayment plan with the Federal Government. BIFD is still paying annually on this agreement.
  - ***Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water?*** BIFD is a Reclamation project. BIFD receives Reclamation water.
  - ***Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?*** Yes, any water conservation efforts made by the BIFD indirectly affect the Basins. The Belle Fourche River Basin is a small portion of the

Cheyenne River Basin and is a big part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Program.

#### Evaluation Criteria E. **Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities(15**

**points)**Up to 15 points may be awarded based on the extent that the project demonstrates support for the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities, including E.O. 14008: *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* and E.O. 13985: *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, and the President's memorandum, *Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to Nation Relationships*. Points will be allocated based on the degree to which the project supports the priorities listed and whether the connection to the priority(ies) is well supported in the application. Only address the sub-criterion that are relevant to your project.

- **Sub-criterion No. E1.** Climate Change Points will be awarded based on the extent to which the project will reduce climate pollution, increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, protect public health, and conserve our lands, waters, oceans, and biodiversity. Address the following as relevant to your project.
- **Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis.** Pipelining the Anderson Lateral BFID will conserve approximately 480 acre-feet of water. Our dam can only hold 172,800 acre-feet of water for 57,183 acres when the dam is full. With the climate, sometimes our dam fails to fill. This year, it is at 143,306 acre-feet. All conservation practices are needed. Upgrading the project, keeping enough water in the dam for future use, and leaving enough space for flood control is difficult. We keep a record of the weather, work with USGS and BOR, and do instrumentation monthly to keep records of monthly readings. This data assists our Dam tender/ Watermaster in knowing how much water to release and conserve. His data includes projects the district finds essential, and he implements the data in managing the dam.
- **Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change?** Piping the Anderson Lateral strengthens our water supply and assists the District in becoming more resilient to climate change.
- **Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?** Anderson Lateral Piping contributes to resiliency to climate change by helping the district store the water in the conveyance system until needed vs. wasting it until used or needed. Open, earthen, unlined laterals and ditches are becoming foregone or obsolete. The ever-changing climate has made our ways of thinking more resilient.

**Sub-criterion No. E3. Tribal Benefits Points will be awarded based on how much the Project will honor the Federal government's commitments to Tribal Nations. The Department of the Interior is committed to strengthening Tribal sovereignty and fulfilling Federal Tribal trust responsibilities. The President's memorandum, "Tribal Consultation and Strengthening**

**Nation-to-Nation Relationships,” asserts the importance of honoring the Federal government’s commitments to Tribal Nations.**

- **Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe? Will the project improve water management for a Tribe?** This project will serve the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe by allowing the BFID to conserve more water available for the Cheyenne River.
- **Does the proposed project support Tribal resilience to climate change and drought impacts or provide other Tribal benefits, such as improved public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities?** At this time, I am uncertain of these aspects of our project.
- **Does the proposed project support Reclamation’s Tribal trust responsibilities or a Reclamation activity with a Tribe?** All the things BFID does support the Tribe as much as possible. BFID and the BOR try to comply and be responsible for all activities. BFID will begin negotiations with the tribe to renew the contract in 2035

## **Environmental and Cultural Resources:**

- *Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the project area's air, water, or animal habitat. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.* The ground will be excavated, and the earth moved from an existing open lateral; the pipe will be placed into the lateral, bedded, and backfilled. BFID intends to reclaim the land and repair the road; this will cause the soil to create dust, but it should be minimal as we will work in the fall and winter months so as not to affect the air quality in a manner unsuitable to the neighborhood. BFID plans to work in the fall to early winter to prevent any massive impact on the animals, air, soil, or water.
- *Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a federally threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?* For example, the Northern Long-Eared Bat is suspected of residing in Western South Dakota wooded areas. They are on the Federal Endangered Species list. Therefore, according to the Bureau of Reclamation, we will do no work from March 1 to October 31. We do not intend to remove any trees, but just in case, our work would then begin after October 31 when they move on and hibernate. Also, bald and gold eagles now reside in and around our area, so we all work outside the nesting periods. Minimal tree removal will occur. Several other endangered species have been found in the District boundaries; however, the BFID, in conjunction with Reclamation, does not do anything to disturb or harm any animals or species.

- ***Are wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries potentially falling under Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?” If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.*** This does not apply to our project, as no wetlands exist in this location.
- ***When was the water delivery system constructed?*** The Secretary of the Interior authorized the Belle Fourche Project for construction on May 10, 1904. Surveys for the project began in 1903. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and then the U.S. Reclamation Service started constructing the facilities on about 12,000 acres. The original project was completed in 1914. In 1949 the operation and maintenance responsibilities were transferred from Reclamation to the Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID). In 1985, the most recent rehabilitation and betterment (R&B) of the district facilities was done, and through the authorization of the R&B, the Belle Fourche Project became the Belle Fourche Unit as it was moved to fall under the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Plan
- ***Will the proposed project result in any modification of, or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., head gates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.*** This Lateral comes off the Townsite Lateral, which has lost integrity; therefore, the Anderson Lateral has lost integrity. This work area will not result in any modifications to the original system. There are no features that will be affected. BFID has submitted paperwork to the Bureau of Reclamation and has been approved by NEPA and SHPO.
- ***Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.*** The Belle Fourche Irrigation District is a historic district eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The District was determined eligible under Criterion A, at the state and local level, for the National Register on August 25, 2002 (SHPO File #020716005F). The District’s period of significance is from 1904 to 1949. Individual waterways are either contributing or not contributing to the District's historic integrity. In consultation with the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in 2002, it was determined that for a lateral to retain integrity, at least fifty percent of its length continues to exist in its original alignment and not be placed in the pipe. In addition, at least fifty percent of the historic structures associated with the lateral must remain and retain integrity. The Townsite Lateral is not a contributing feature in this area; therefore, the Anderson Lateral has lost integrity and is now considered non-contributing.
- ***Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?*** At this time, the BFID sees no archeological items at this site. Reclamation’s archaeologist has completed the cultural survey in the project work zone, and BFID has approved the proceeding.

- *Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low-income or minority populations?* No, this project should not affect the population.
- *Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?* No
- *Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of the noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?* No, this project should reduce the existence and spread of the noxious weeds and invasive species.

**RESOLUTION FOR SMALL-SCALE WATER  
EFFICIENCY PROJECTS:  
WaterSMART**

**Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects FY 2024 AND FY 2025**

**April 2, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the Belle Fourche Irrigation District in Newell, South Dakota, is a legally organized irrigation district in the State of South Dakota and

**WHEREAS**, the District promotes, supports, and encourages water conservation and

**WHEREAS**, the District urgently needs system improvements to maximize the utilization of a limited water supply and help sustain the viability of the project.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of the Belle Fourche Irrigation District in South Dakota agrees and authorizes that:

1. The Board has reviewed and supports the application proposal to the WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency;
2. The Board authorizes the District Secretary, Tara Tennis and/or Project Manager Tristan Clements, the legal authority to enter into the WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants agreement;
3. The Belle Fourche Irrigation District in South Dakota is capable of providing in-kind services and matching obligations and
4. If selected for a Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant, the applicant will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

DATED: April 2, 2024

Randy Oliver  
Randy Oliver, Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Tara Tennis  
Tara Tennis, Secretary

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BELLE FOURCHE  
IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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Box 225  
209 Dartmouth  
Newell, SD 57760  
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Conflict of Interest Disclosure Certificate: Ensuring Transparency and Integrity in  
Procurement and Project Management

Whereas Belle Fourche Irrigation District has no Organizational Conflicts of Interest to report, I hereby certify as a representative of the Belle Fourche Irrigation District that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no facts exist relevant to the existence of any past or present or contemplated relationship between me or my organization the Belle Fourche Irrigation District and any vendor that would provide goods for the project. Belle Fourche Irrigation District will follow policy, Federal Laws, and Bureau of Reclamation Guidelines when purchasing items with Federal funds provided by the WaterSMART grant. Belle Fourche Irrigation District agrees to prohibit giving an unfair competitive advantage to any third-party vendor.

Please describe below any relationships, transactions, positions you hold (volunteer or otherwise), or circumstances that you believe could contribute to a conflict of interest:

☒ I have no conflict of interest to report.

☐ I have the following conflict of interest to report (please specify other nonprofit and for-profit boards you (and your spouse) sit on, any for-profit businesses for which you or an immediate family member are an officer or director or a majority shareholder, and the name of your employer and any businesses you or a family member own:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

It is of utmost importance that the information provided in this form is complete and truthful. By signing this form, I am solemnly committed to uphold transparency and integrity in all my actions. This commitment is crucial in maintaining the integrity of piping the Anderson Lateral.

Tristan Clements, Project Manager of the Belle Fourche Irrigation District, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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Tristan Clements  
Project Manager  
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RE: Letter of Commitment

As the Project Manager of Belle Fourche Irrigation District, I wish to underscore the significance of this agreement. While not a legally binding document, it is of the utmost importance as it establishes our district's roles and responsibilities in a construction project with the Bureau of Reclamation. We take this commitment seriously, and it is a mutually binding agreement highlighting our crucial roles in this project.

The designated agent of this entity who has signed this document affirms the willingness of the program or organization to:

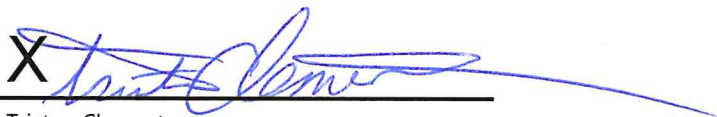
1. As a demonstration of our unwavering commitment, we are prepared to allocate up to \$100,000.00 from assessment income for this project. This substantial financial support is a clear testament to our dedication to the success of this project.
2. We assure you that funding for this project will be available throughout 2025, with no time constraints, ensuring the project's continuity and success.
3. Create and support organizational processes to sustain water management conservation and communication with our partner.
4. Develop and/or sustain water delivery and structural integrity.
5. Examine and address all issues related to this project before beginning the pipeline.
6. Participate in submitting all quarterly reports on time and with receipts.  
Designated agents who have signed this document also commit to fully participate in the following activities of the Project from October 2025 until October 2027:
7. Participate in a management team for the Project.
8. Participate with all employees and take the lead on the Project.
9. Facilitate staff participation in the construction of the pipeline and installation of all appurtenances
10. Actively support, facilitate, and complete all tasks required to implement the installation of the Pipeline.
11. Provide estimates of costs associated with the pipeline and appurtenances.
12. Provide access to the Bureau of Reclamation at any time to any administrative paperwork, design drawings, or photos they may request.

I want to reiterate that the Belle Fourche Irrigation District is fully committed to the proposed pipeline installation. We are dedicated to engaging in the activities and plans outlined in this agreement, and we will follow through on these commitments regardless of changes in agency leadership, budget modifications, or other foreseeable events. Our commitment to the success of this project remains unwavering.



BELLE FOURCHE  
IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Headquarters:  
Box 225  
209 Dartmouth  
Newell, SD 57760  
(605) 456-2541

X 

Tristan Clements  
Project Manager



BELLE FOURCHE  
IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Headquarters:  
Box 225  
209 Dartmouth  
Newell, SD 57760  
(605) 456-2541

Tara Tennis  
Secretary/Treasurer  
PO Box 225  
Newell, SD 57760

RE: Letter of Commitment

As the Project Manager of Belle Fourche Irrigation District, I wish to underscore the significance of this agreement. While not a legally binding document, it is of the utmost importance as it establishes our district's roles and responsibilities in a construction project with the Bureau of Reclamation. We take this commitment seriously, and it is a mutually binding agreement highlighting our crucial roles in this project.

The designated agent of this entity who has signed this document affirms the willingness of the program or organization to:

1. To demonstrate our unwavering commitment, we are prepared to allocate up to \$100,000.00 from assessment income for this project. This substantial financial support is a clear testament to our dedication to its success.
2. We assure you that funding for this project will be available throughout 2025, with no time constraints, ensuring the project's continuity and success.
3. Create and support organizational processes to sustain water management conservation and communication with our partner.
4. Develop and/or sustain water delivery and structural integrity.
5. Examine and address all issues related to this project before beginning the pipeline.
6. Participate in submitting all quarterly reports on time and with receipts.  
Designated agents who have signed this document also commit to fully participate in the following activities of the Project from October 2025 until October 2027:
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(605) 456-2541

X

Tara Tennis  
Secretary/Treasurer



IN REPLY REFER TO:

DK-4000  
2.2.4.21

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Rapid City Field Office  
515 Ninth Street, Room 101  
Rapid City, SD 57701



Tara Tennis  
Belle Fourche Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 225  
Newell, South Dakota 57760  
[bfidl@sdplains.com](mailto:bfidl@sdplains.com)

Subject: Letter of Support - Belle Fourche Irrigation District FY2024 WaterSMART Application, Funding Opportunity R24AS00059

Dear Ms. Tennis:

Bureau of Reclamation's Dakotas Area Office is happy to provide a letter of support for the Belle Fourche Irrigation District 2024 WaterSMART Small-Scale Efficiency Project application, funding opportunity R24AS00059.

We understand that the District's planned work will be to convert 3,380 ft of the Anderson Lateral from open ditch to pipeline which will create a water savings annually and will provide a benefit to the general public of western South Dakota.

Reclamation supports your application because your District has worked cooperatively with Reclamation on many similar water conservation projects over the years. The saved water benefits all of us in western South Dakota who use the Belle Fourche Reservoir and Belle Fourche River. This includes District Irrigators as well as the general public.

If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Lesmeister, Deputy Manager at 605-219-0460 or at [clesmeister@usbr.gov](mailto:clesmeister@usbr.gov). If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Sincerely,

CRYSTAL  
LESMEISTER

Digitally signed by CRYSTAL  
LESMEISTER  
Date: 2024.07.08 15:29:56 -06'00'

Crystal Lesmeister,  
Facilities and Engineering Deputy Manager

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INTERIOR REGION 5 • MISSOURI BASIN

KANSAS, MONTANA\*, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA, SOUTH DAKOTA

\* PARTIAL



## Budget Narrative:

- The in-kind match BFID will provide will be equipment and person-hours; it is assumed to take 23 days to complete this project. Two days to mobilize the equipment and haul PVC pipe and supplies to the Anderson Lateral. Demobilization will take three days to clean up, remove all equipment and debris, and repair the road. All labor and fringe benefits listed in this proposal are based on actual wages and fringe benefits as of July 5, 2024. Labor and fringe benefits are approximately \$50,651.50 and are spent as follows:
- **Project Manager:** Will be allotted 10 hours to take pictures, document progress, and oversee the foreman and office administration. He will also correspond with the Bureau of Reclamation as needed. His current pay rate with fringe benefits totals \$353.10.
- **Project Foreman:** On location, the job duration to ensure all work is done accurately and safely. This is 160 hours at his current pay rate with fringe benefits of \$5,848.00. The foreman is hands-on and assists the crew as well. He is responsible for the project and tracking all work done.
- **Office Administration:** Approximately 18 hours are estimated for the Administration, and \$446.18 is estimated to document all hours, receipts, and equipment usage and to file all quarterly reports promptly.
- **Operators:** Utilized daily to operate the equipment, they will be on location for 160 person-hours each for a combined total of \$14,579.20. Operators will shoot the ditch for the grade, lay approximately 200 feet of pipe daily, and install the valves, measuring devices, and valve wells in approximately 18 days.
- **Truck drivers:** They will haul all equipment, pipe, machinery, etc. needed to the location. They will also drive the dump trucks to haul the bedding for the pipeline. The truck drivers may also be used to install the pipe in the trench. The estimated usage for two men is 160 hours each, totaling \$9,179.20. Our employees are cross-trained, and these have CDLs.
- **Laborers:** These employees lay pipes, keep the area clean and safe, and assist the foreman and operators as needed. The estimated cost for these employees is \$20,259.20. These employees are also used in the trench to compact the soil with the Wacker Packer. They clean and glue the pipe together and do all the tasks the foreman assigns them. They will help the operators with mobilization and demobilization.
- *BFID used the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) ownership and operating schedule to determine the equipment hours and adjusted them to match our equipment.*
- **Case backhoe-** 92 hours @ \$36.41 to backfill, move earth, and haul pipe on location for a total of \$3,349.72.

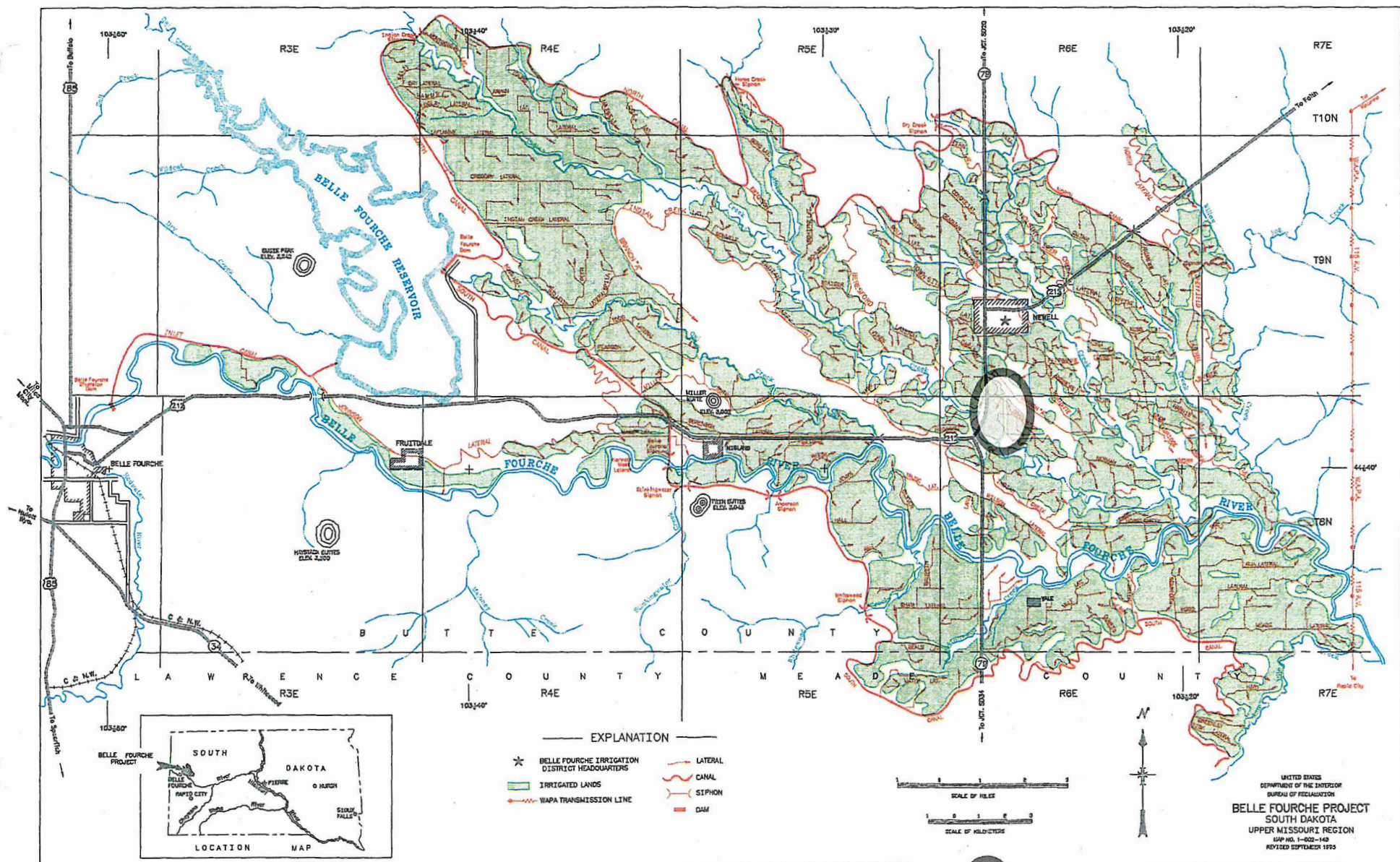


- **Case skid steer**-88 hours @ \$21.37 used to load pipe backfill and disperse the pipe bedding for \$1,880.56.
  - **Caterpillar excavator**-160 hours @ \$58.54 used to dig pipeline and valve wells-\$9,366.40.
  - **A forklift**- will load pipe in the staging area for 48 hours—\$1,320.00.
  - **Semi-trucks** will haul all equipment and pipes to the location. The estimated usage is 40 hours each, for \$4,023.20.
  - **Dump Trucks**—BFID estimates the time it takes to haul pipe bedding and gravel from District Headquarters to the location as 48 hours per truck, for a total of \$4,053.60.
  - **Caterpillar D6 dozer**-160 hours @ \$51.44 used to move earth-\$8,230.40.
  - **Wacker Packers**- will be used to pack the bedding for 160 days for \$528.00.
  - BFID will have added \$4,000 to cover the unexpectedly increased labor and parts costs above and beyond the budget.
- District total in-kind and monetary match of \$99,986.16. All of these funds will be contributed by assessment income and savings accounts. All wages, fringe benefits, appurtenances, pipe, and supplies costs are based on costs as of today, May 7, 2024.
- The federal funding portion of this project is used to purchase the necessary supplies. The 15" PVC pipe is priced at \$20.14 per foot, and 1780 feet are needed for \$35,849.20. The 12" PVC pipe is priced at \$12.45 per foot, and 1760 feet are required for \$21,912.00. The elbows, tees, reducers, air vents, other appurtenances, and contingencies will cost approximately \$22,645.15.
  - Federal funds will also pay \$3,000.00 for NEPA, NHPO, ESA, etc. \$4,000 is added to the Federal share to cover any price increases. The total Federal funds requested for the funding opportunity are \$83,406.35. The cost of the pipe and appurtenances is based on the price as of May 7, 2024.

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		Quantity Type	TOTAL COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
<b>Salaries and Wages</b>				<b>\$39,214.56</b>
Manager	\$ 29.52	10.0	hours	\$ 295.20
Foreman	\$ 29.00	160.0	hours	\$ 4,640.00
Administration	\$ 20.36	16.0	hours	\$ 325.76
Operator 1	\$ 25.37	160.0	hours	\$ 4,059.20
Operator 2	\$ 23.10	160.0	hours	\$ 3,696.00
Operator 3	\$ 21.67	160.0	hours	\$ 3,467.20
Truck Driver	\$ 20.08	160.0	hours	\$ 3,212.80
Truck Driver 2	\$ 23.63	160.0	hours	\$ 3,780.80
Labor (pipe Layer)	\$ 22.61	160.0	hours	\$ 3,617.60
Labor (pipe Layer)	\$ 19.75	160.0	hours	\$ 3,160.00
Laborer	\$ 19.00	160.0	hours	\$ 3,040.00
Laborer	\$ 19.00	160.0	hours	\$ 3,040.00
Laborer	\$ 18.00	160.0	hours	\$ 2,880.00
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>				<b>\$11,450.32</b>
Manager	\$5.79	10.0	hours	\$ 57.90
Foreman	\$7.55	160	hours	\$1,208.00
Administration	\$6.69	18.0	hours	\$ 120.42
Operator 1	\$7.19	160.0	hours	\$ 1,150.40
Operator 2	\$6.97	160.0	hours	\$ 1,115.20
Operator 3	\$6.82	160.0	hours	\$ 1,091.20
Truck Driver	\$6.65	160.0	hours	\$ 1,064.00
Truck Driver 2	\$7.01	160.0	hours	\$ 1,121.60
Labor (pipe Layer)	\$2.25	160.0	hours	\$ 360.00
Labor (pipe Layer)	\$6.62	160.0	hours	\$ 1,059.20
Laborer	\$6.43	160.0	hours	\$ 1,028.80
Laborer	\$6.53	160.0	hours	\$ 1,044.80
Laborer	\$6.43	160.0	hours	\$ 1,028.80
<b>Use of District-owned Equipment</b>				<b>\$36,751.88</b>
Case Backhoe	\$ 36.41	92	hours	\$ 3,349.72
Skid Steer case	\$ 21.37	88	hours	\$ 1,880.56
Cat Excavator	\$ 58.54	160	hours	\$ 9,366.40
Fork Lift	\$ 16.50	80	hours	\$ 1,320.00
PeterBuilt/Trailer	\$ 50.29	40	hours	\$ 2,011.60
Ford Semi/Trailer	\$ 50.29	40	hours	\$ 2,011.60
GMC Dump Truck	\$ 50.67	40	hours	\$ 2,026.80
GMC Dump Truck	\$ 50.67	40	hours	\$ 2,026.80
Cat Dozer D6	\$ 51.44	160	hours	\$ 8,230.40
Wacker Packer X 3	\$ 3.30	160	days	\$ 528.00
Contingencies	\$ 4,000.00	1		\$ 4,000.00

<b>Supplies and Materials Federal</b>				<b>\$80,406.35</b>
<b>Supplies and Materials District</b>				
Pipe Glue	\$115.19	4		\$ 460.76
Pipe Cleaner	\$85.89	4		\$ 343.56
Pipe Lubricant and swabs	\$12.63	20		\$ 252.60
15" X 4" PIP Tee 100PSI	\$ 247.82	2		\$ 495.64
15"X 15 X 12" PIP Tee	\$ 385.49	1		\$ 385.49
15" X 12" Reducer	\$ 142.61	2		\$ 285.22
12" Tee	\$ 233.06	1		\$ 233.06
12" X 4" Tee	\$ 165.79	2		\$ 331.58
15" 90° Elbow	\$ 389.83	1		\$ 389.83
12" 90° Elbow	\$ 250.57	4		\$ 1,002.28
4" Air Vent	\$ 130.00	4		\$ 520.00
12" Valves	\$ 1,356.36	2		\$ 2,712.72
12" Alfalfa Riser	\$ 250.06	3		\$ 750.18
Valve Wells	\$ 1,121.48	2		\$ 2,242.96
Valve Well Lids	\$ 312.20	2		\$ 624.40
Pipe Bedding	\$ 9.50	202.7559		\$ 1,926.18
Gravel	\$ 8.30	128.4199		\$ 1,065.89
CRP Mix grassland	\$ 250.00	12		\$ 3,000.00
15" 100 PSI PIP Pipe	\$ 20.14	1780		\$ 35,849.20
12" 100 PSI PIP Pipe	\$ 12.45	1760		\$ 21,912.00
4" 100 PSI PIP Pipe	\$ 40.57	40		\$ 1,622.80
Contingencies	\$ 4,000.00	1		\$ 4,000.00
<b>Other</b>				<b>\$3,000.00</b>
Environmental compliance/review	\$3,000.00	1		\$ 3,000.00
<b>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</b>				<b>\$170,823.11</b>
<b>Indirect Costs</b>				
None				\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS</b>				<b>\$170,823.11</b>

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Percent of Total Project</b>	<b>Total Cost by Source</b>
Recipient Funding	51%	\$87,416.76
Reclamation Funding	49%	\$83,406.35
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$170,823.11</b>



Anderson Lateral Project Area