The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program accelerates investment in our nation’s water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects.

NELSON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

BORROWER: Johnson County, Kansas
LOCATION: Johnson County, Kansas
WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT: $281,456,000
TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS: $574,400,000
POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT: 610,000 people
NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED: 1,800

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project in Johnson County, Kansas will modernize critical wastewater infrastructure nearing the end of its useful life, improve system resiliency to wet weather events, and expand treatment capacity. The first phase of the project will reconfigure the existing system to enable it to remain operational throughout the comprehensive construction under the project’s second phase. The second phase will modernize the wastewater treatment plant by implementing biological nutrient removal upgrades, auxiliary treatment facilities to treat peak wet weather flows, and biosolids processing. Upon completion of the project, the wastewater treatment facility will be able to treat 15 million gallons per day during average daily flows and 52 million gallons per day during peak flows. Additionally, the completed wastewater treatment system will provide an additional 87 million gallons per day of wet weather auxiliary capacity which will allow Johnson County to meet future demand. This project will help Johnson County comply with a consent decree from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus discharges.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Expands wastewater treatment capacity.
- Supports system resiliency to the impacts of wet weather events.
- Saves Johnson County approximately $80 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.