

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND



DRINKING WATER TREATMENT

State Program:

Texas Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program

Assistance Recipient:

Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation

Project Name:

Water Plant Improvements

Initial Agreement Date:

2022



Project Description

The Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation serves the unincorporated community of Ellinger, a rural area in Fayette County, Texas with a population of 203. For years, the Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation struggled with high arsenic levels in its water. The water system faced challenges with financing the necessary infrastructure improvements without increasing water rates, which would have been burdensome for many of the residents living in a low-income community. In 2017, EPA issued an Administrative Order on the Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation to bring its water system into compliance with the arsenic maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 parts per billion.

As a result, Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation secured a \$863,000 loan from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to drill a new well for an alternate water supply source. After multiple attempts, the Corporation was unable to find a local groundwater source with arsenic levels low enough to meet drinking water standards. **The Corporation then applied for \$1.4 million of additional funding through DWSRF with approximately 45 percent principal forgiveness under the state of Texas's Urgent Need-Securing Safe Water Initiative.** This allowed them to install an arsenic treatment system and replace a standpipe with a new 50,000-gallon ground storage tank to ensure a reliable water supply.

The Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation addressed multiple challenges under one project by leveraging co-funding from USDA and DWSRF to assist a very small water system in addressing high arsenic levels in its source water by installing treatment, in addition to providing water storage and replacing existing infrastructure. The Ellinger Sewer and Water Supply Corporation now provides to its rural service area reliable drinking water that meets the Safe Drinking Water Act arsenic standards.



**DWSRF Assistance
Provided
\$1.4M**



**Principal
Forgiveness
\$800,000**



**Funding from
Other Sources
\$863,000**

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This case study comes from the [Aquarius 2025 Compendium](#).