



Winston H. Hickox
*Secretary for
Environmental
Protection*

California Environmental Protection Agency

NEWS RELEASE

State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Legislative and Public Affairs
901 P Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 657-1247
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
FAX (916) 657-1258 • Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>



Gray Davis
Governor

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Contact:
Robert Miller (916) 657-1247

State Water Board Awards \$2.5 Million Grant to City of Mendota

SACRAMENTO -- The State Water Resources Control Board last week awarded a \$2.5 million grant to the City of Mendota to help the city upgrade its wastewater treatment system.

The City's 20-year-old system has repeatedly failed and field surveys have discovered that the sewer pipes have insufficient grading, making the system prone to blockages. These blockages allow sewage to intrude into the storm water system, resulting in frequent sewage overflows and back-ups into homes and businesses. These back-ups are a serious health hazard and have the potential to compromise water quality.

The Wastewater Collection and Treatment Improvement Project will eliminate sewage overflows and backups; provide reliable treatment and sufficient effluent storage capacity. The project will upgrade the collection system and treatment facility, increasing the plant's capacity.

Funding for the grant was through a state allocation to the State Water Board from the 1998-99 Chaptered Budget Act. The City of Mendota also received grants from the Small Communities Grant fund for planning and design of the facilities.

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