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# Westwater/Blanding Infrastructure Project Update

Executive Appropriations Committee  
*September 20, 2022*

Kim Shelley, Executive Director



UTAH DEPARTMENT of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY**

# The Westwater Community

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**Just outside of Blanding,**  
they have never had the essential utilities  
of electricity and drinking water.

**120**  
Acres

**29**  
Residences



# Project Funding Timeline

**01.** — March 2021

**\$500K**  
one-time GF

**02.** — November 2021

**\$25M** ARPA for  
drinking water  
projects

**03.** — January 2022

**\$900K** from  
DWSRF for  
engineering  
design

**04.** — March 2022

**\$3.5M** ARPA set  
aside

# Project Funding Timeline

## (continued)

**05.** — July 2022: **MOU Approved**

**\$3.5M** awarded to Blanding

- Deep water well with arsenic treatment
- Provide water to Westwater

**\$5.5M** from Navajo Nation

**18** other small communities  
approved for ARPA drinking water \$

**July 26, 2022- MOU Approved**

Memorandum of Understanding



**State of Utah**



**Navajo Nation**



**Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA)**



**San Juan County**

# Agreed-upon funding sources and roles

## Memorandum of Understanding



### **NTUA**

Own and operate Westwater system; oversee construction/design



### **San Juan County**

Act as fiscal agent between State and Westwater



### **Blanding**

Supply water; oversee Blanding project design/construction



01

**Sept. 1 -  
Westwater  
electrification  
complete**

## What has been completed

- Full funding acquired
- Blanding and Westwater have retained engineering firms for planning/design
- SJWCD approved water rights request

STILL OUTSTANDING

# Blanding City New Well Project



Long term  
agreement  
signed between  
Blanding and  
NTUA



Final  
engineering  
design



Out to bid in  
October



STILL OUTSTANDING

# Westwater Drinking Water Distribution Project



Final  
engineering  
design



Project  
Completion



# Thank you



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Questions? Contact us