Applicant Name Petrolia Irrigation District (PID)
Project Name Petrolia Irrigation Rehabilitation Project

Project Abstract

The PID is in Petroleum County, about seven miles southeast of Winnett. The PID is requesting funds through the Renewable Resources Grant and Loan Program (RRGL) for the design and construction of canal lining in the main irrigation canal. The goal of the project is to provide the PID with an irrigation infrastructure improvement that will conserve water resources and increase crop yields and benefit recreational uses on Petrolia Reservoir.

In compliance with the RRGL requirements, an engineering firm conducted a field review and survey in October 2005 and January 2006. Canal structure, erosion, siltation, and seepage were also inventoried. The primary recommendation of the study is to line a portion of the canal with a geomembrane canal liner which will provide stabilization and control leakage of irrigation water. Currently, an estimated 600 acres of land have been put out of production or have decreased production rates due to the saline seep and leakage of irrigation water from this portion of the canal. The annual crop loss because of lost production has been estimated at approximately $136,500.

Implementation of the proposed project will potentially result in a significant economic benefit to the community. Also, higher rates of water storage from year to year in Petrolia Reservoir will benefit the recreational industry in this area. The reservoir is used heavily by fishing, boating, and camping enthusiasts from across the state. Improved canal efficiency and decreased canal seepage will increase irrigation delivery and allow the PID to provide more water to the users during the most critical time of the irrigation season.