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Project in Bedford County

Washington, DC—**Congressman Shuster** is pleased to announce that he has been successful in securing \$300,000 for a waste water management and environmental restoration project in Broad Top Township and Coaldale Borough. Shuster secured the \$300,000 through the Water Resources Development Act and it will be administered by the Army Corps of Engineers.

“Our quality of life is directly connected to the services we rely on day to day,” Shuster said. “We take the quality of the water we drink, cook and clean with for granted, but the truth is a lot of work goes into making sure our water is safe. This project provides a safe waste water system for Broad Top Township and Coaldale Borough so that their residents can receive the same quality service that most people in our Country already have.”

In 2001, an Environmental Assessment found that inadequate sewage disposal, previous mining activities, and unreclaimed or abandoned mined lands created public health and safety hazards and adversely affected the quality of ground and surface water in the Broad Top and Coaldale regions.

A plan was put in place to construct an integrated wastewater treatment system for the region including a sewage collection system for the Six Mile Run Valley terminating at a new treatment facility at Riddlesburg. Since then, the treatment plant and collection system have been constructed through Riddlesburg, Defiance and Coaldale. The new \$300,000 grant will be used in combination with a \$700,000 USDA Rural Development loan announced by Congressman Shuster in August to provide safe wastewater disposal for 105 families in Finleyville and Round Knob, completing the Six Mile Run Valley System.

Township Chairman Donald Hedge Jr. thanked Congressman Shuster for his continued commitment to the project, “Bill Shuster has come through for us again. When we started construction this spring we only had money to connect a dozen homes, but now, with this grant we will finally be able to get to the end of the line for the entire valley. Families whose children always had to watch out for sewage in the streams will now have safe wastewater disposal.”

Supervisor Robert S Figard said “Bill Shuster has stuck with us as we have worked to make life better for our residents. Whenever it looked like progress was stopped, Congressman Shuster has helped us get going again. We really appreciate his work to protect the health of our residents.”

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