Water system upgrades coming

The Town Talk April 29, 2008

Improvements are on the way for two area water systems.

Congressman Rodney Alexander joined USDA Rural Development State Director Clyde Holloway and area officials near Pineville on Monday to break ground on water system improvements for Buckeye Water District 50 in northeast Rapides Parish.

They also presented funding for water district improvements to Fifth Ward Water District in Avoyelles Parish.

Buckeye Water District 50 will use more than \$1.6 million in USDA Rural Development direct loan funding to construct a new 500-gallon-per-minute water well, a million-gallon ground storage tank and pumping station, an 83,000-gallon ground storage tank and pumping station, and a new transmission system.

Buckeye also will use \$500,000 from the Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals Drinking Water Revolving Loan Funds, as well as \$406,000 in water district funds for improvements to the water system.

Fifth Ward Water System is receiving over \$2.1 million in USDA Rural Development direct loan funds, as well as over \$1.6 million in USDA Rural Development direct grant funds to replace a water production well, replace existing pumps and motors, construct new water transmission mains, and replace and enlarge existing water mains.