

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District For Immediate Release September 16, 2008

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## Rep. Shuler Announces Federal Grant for Tuckaseegee Water & Sewer Authority

Washington, D.C. – Representative Heath Shuler announced today that the Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority (TWSA) will receive \$300,000 from the Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) for the improvement and expansion of the wastewater treatment plant on the Tuckasegee River in Jackson County. The federal government will also provide TWSA with a \$1 million Rural Development grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the project.

Currently the wastewater system, built in 1970, is not capable of meeting the growing needs of the surrounding community, including Western Carolina University. The upgraded system will expand treatment capacity from 1.5 to 3.5 million gallons per day, and will bring TWSA into compliance with state environmental standards.

"Improving the infrastructure of Jackson County will allow us to support business development and create jobs," said Rep. Shuler. "I am proud of the work the ARC does in helping our mountain communities meet their needs, and I will continue fighting to make sure that every part Western North Carolina receives the attention it deserves."

The ARC uses the funding appropriated by Congress to provide grants for projects like Jackson County community infrastructure improvement. The ARC grant request was written by the TWSA.