

MOBILE - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Alabama today announced the awarding of funding to the St. Stephens Water System from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development. The funds, consisting of an \$806,000 grant and a \$640,000 loan, are being made available through the department's Domestic Water System Program and will be used for the construction of additional water lines and a new well and storage tank. Additionally, approximately 66 new customers will be added to the water system.

"I am extremely pleased that the Department of Agriculture has approved the release of this assistance to the St. Stephens Water System," Bonner said. "As an area that has worked for many years for increased residential and corporate development, St. Stephens will benefit tremendously as a result of the stronger infrastructure and utilities services this funding will provide. Both community leaders and county officials should be commended for their strong efforts in making this financial assistance a reality."