



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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Gov. Noem Announces \$657,000 for Blunt Water System Improvements

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Kristi Noem says the state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved a \$657,000 loan with \$207,000 in principal forgiveness from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for Blunt drinking water system improvements.

The loan will be administered through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

“I am pleased to announce that Blunt will receive this assistance,” said Gov. Noem. “This funding will help the town make necessary drinking water system improvements to increase system efficiency and better serve its customers.”

The project includes replacing old, inaccurate water meters with 144 new meters so the city can better monitor and serve water to its customers. In addition, four fire hydrants currently served by four-inch lines will be upgraded to six-inch service lines to increase firefighting capacity. Outdated water valves and curb stops will also be replaced.

The loan will cover the total cost of the project. Loan terms are 2.25 percent for 20 years.

The State of South Dakota and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fund the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, which provides low-interest loans for public drinking water system projects. Principal forgiveness is a subsidy option that results in a reduced loan repayment amount for the borrower.

The board met today over the Digital Dakota Network.