
U.S. Representative

John Spratt

South Carolina ■ 5th District

News Release

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Spratt Says EDA Grant Means More Jobs for Bennettsville

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) announced today that the Economic Development Administration has awarded a \$1.1 million grant to the city of Bennettsville.

Spratt said the funds will go toward water and sewer system upgrades, which are necessary for economic expansion in the area northwest of the city.

“This grant is great news for Bennettsville,” said Spratt. “It means more clean water, more industry, and more jobs.”

The project includes upgrading the city’s water supply by constructing a new 750 gpm well southeast of the city and some 28,000 linear feet of 10"-12" raw water main to connect the new well to the existing water treatment plant. A chemical feed building will also be added.

In addition, the project will include the construction of some 2,000 linear feet of 8" gravity sewer and 4,800 linear feet of 4" force main sewer and lift station, plus 4,000 linear feet of 8" water main to serve expanding industry northwest of the city.

“This project will create 255 new jobs, save 75 others, and include private investments of \$12.3 million,” said Spratt.

In the area northwest of Bennettsville, Powell Manufacturing, a developer of high-tech tobacco barns with 104 employees, is planning an expansion that would grow the company by 141 jobs. However, Powell cannot move forward without first securing water-sewer service from the city. The same is true of Marley Electric Company, which hopes to expand with 100 jobs, and several commercial businesses, which would add 14 jobs.

Spratt said the \$1.1 million grant was a prime example of how federal funds help local communities. “Bennettsville would be hard pressed to complete this project without federal aid,” said Spratt. “It’s money that will help the city keep good industry and attract new industry. I’m delighted the award came through.”

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