

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) announced that Bibb County has been awarded a \$200,000 grant to help extend water service to homes in the Eoline community near Brent.

The funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) will be used as part of a \$1.1 million project to extend public water service to 55 homes along nearly nine miles of US Highway 82 west of the city. It will also permit interconnections with other water systems in Bibb and Tuscaloosa Counties. Families in the area currently depend on natural springs for their drinking water, which health department tests have indicated can result in substandard supplies.

"This project will increase the supply of safe drinking water in Bibb County. Aside from being important for public health, the availability of new water service will help promote economic development. Brent Mayor Dennis Stripling, the utilities board, and Bibb County are to be commended for moving forward with this vital work," Congressman Bachus said.

The facilities will be operated by the Utilities Board of the City of Brent, which is contributing \$664,354 to the project. Mayor Stripling said he was appreciative of the ARC funding.

"This is very exciting news. There are many families in the community who have been hoping for water service, and this will help us with the funding of the project," Mayor Stripling said.

The utilities board will own and operate the expanded facilities.