



Boone County Commission

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MICKEY BROWN

ATHOLL W. HALSTEAD

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March 23, 2010

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

After hearing that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is currently working on a proposal to introduce a human right to water, we wanted to take the opportunity to express how valuable public-private partnerships are in providing this service.

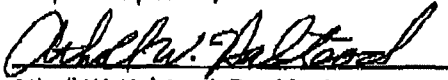
In Boone County, W. Va., we have been working for years to bring water to residents who otherwise would have to rely on well water, which is often unreliable, or haul water in for use in cisterns. With the help of private utility West Virginia American Water, through this public-private partnership agreement with the Boone County Public Service District and the financial assistance of the Boone County Commission, we have been able to provide treated water to nearly 6,500 new customers over the past dozen or so years and now have water service throughout approximately 95 percent of the county. We continue to work with this partner to extend service to the remaining 5 percent.

Without the funding assistance and the technical expertise provided by West Virginia American Water, many Boone County residents would still be without treated water service.

In other, less rural areas of the country, residents take treated water service for granted. The residents of Boone County who have recently benefitted from water line extensions installed and maintained by West Virginia American Water and the Boone County PSD realize the true value of being able to turn on their faucets and have clean, safe water to drink, bathe in and cook with.

It is a pleasure and an honor to be able to bring this service to the residents of Boone County, and we are grateful for the public-private partnerships that have made it possible.

Respectfully Yours,


Atholl W. Halstead, President


Mickey Brown, Commissioner


Eddie Hendricks, Commissioner