

Media backgrounder:

- Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) will provide \$1million in support of water development projects.
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration will administer the program.
- Funds will first be directed to the 34 rural municipalities (RMs) in the southwest that were designated as eligible for federal tax deferral for drought induced sale of livestock.
- Remaining funds will be directed province-wide to support water development projects that address drought-related water shortages.
- Eligible projects include:
 - > Large-diameter wells, pasture pipelines and dugouts that were completed in 2006 in the designated 34 RMs that did not receive PFRA funding, will be eligible for one-third cost-share, to a maximum of \$5,000. The \$5,000 maximum will not be applied in the case of small diameter wells.
 - > Small-diameter wells completed in 2006 anywhere in the province that did receive cost-sharing from PFRA will be eligible for a top-up grant from the provincial program to meet the full one-third over-all cost share.
 - > The remaining funds will be used to provide a top-up to the PFRA program for small-diameter wells throughout the province, to the full one-third combined cost-share.
- All projects must meet PFRA's construction criteria.
- PFRA and SAF will co-ordinate contact with potential 2006 applications.