



# Malta Irrigation District Dodson North Canal Siphons Replacement Project

EXHIBIT 21  
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HB 6

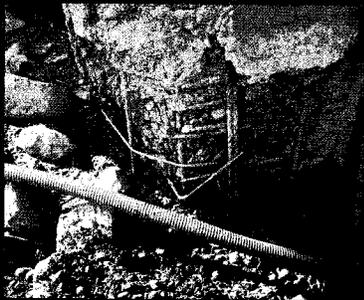
Malta Irrigation District (MID) wishes to thank the Long Range Planning Appropriations Subcommittee for the continuing dedication of supplying grant funds to public entities for the conservation of valuable renewable resources.

MID also wishes to thank the Subcommittee for the past years of funding; MID has been a thankful recipient of more than one grant. Without these funds, many entities, including MID, would find it difficult to finance large projects such as the Dodson North Canal Siphons Replacement Project and past projects such as the Dodson Dam Rehabilitation.

MID strives to find alternative ways to fund water conservation projects such as this one. Without these alternative funding solutions such as DNRCs RRGL program, MID would be forced to assess the already over-assessed water users. Many support MID's efforts in finding alternate funding sources; this can be shown through the over forty letters of support from irrigators, local and state leaders, local businesses, USFWS, USBR, FWP as well as groups such as Walleyes Unlimited and Ducks Unlimited.

## Project Summary

- MID constructed between 1909 and 1917
- MID provides water to approximately 42,500 acres
- Two of three siphons in critical condition and exhibit extreme seepage
- Siphons are of original structure; approximately 100 years old
- Siphons beyond repair
- One siphon to be replaced with earthen canal section and 200-cfs weir for water measurement
- Other siphon to be replaced with pipe
- Water savings would result in approximately 1,800-acre feet per year
  - Conserved water can be used elsewhere within MID or left in system to enhance Milk River flows and wildlife habitat, wetlands and downstream irrigators
- Benefits of project would be long-term
- Total project cost = \$287,834
  - Malta Irrigation District: \$187,834
  - RRGL grant: \$100,000



## Project Importance

- Siphon failure would be devastating
  - Lack of irrigation water would physically and financially damage irrigators and local economies
- In 2010, Dodson North Canal supplied 28% of water used within MID
- Water conservation will benefit more than one group
- Project is part of continuing efforts to better manage available water via installation of water measuring weir
- Project is part of continuing efforts to improve an aging system to ensure the future and longevity of MID
- Siphon replacement will allow MID to preserve and conserve water, an important renewable resource