

TEA SANITARY SEWER REGIONALIZATION

STATE PROGRAM: South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Tea

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$12,825,000



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Tea is a growing community adjacent to Sioux Falls, the largest city in South Dakota. Given the growth seen over the last decade and anticipated future growth, Tea's existing facultative lagoon system would no longer have adequate treatment capacity or be able to meet permit requirements. Building additional treatment capacity would be an expensive undertaking due to upfront capital costs along with long-term operation and maintenance costs. Instead, the City of Tea and Sioux Falls collaborated on a regionalization agreement wherein Tea wastewater users buy into the excess capacity within Sioux Falls' wastewater collection and treatment system through the payment of a system development charge (SDC). This arrangement will help offset future capital costs for Sioux Falls, reduce longterm costs for Tea residents, and reduce the number of permitted discharge facilities. The creation of the SDC payment framework allowed the City of Tea to seek \$12,825,000 in funding from the CWSRF program. Part of the CWSRF funds were used to pay for existing Tea users' SDC payment. CWSRF funds will also be used for planning, design, and construction of a lift station and force main to convey the wastewater from Tea to the Sioux Falls collection system.

To read more about this case study, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-02/2021-pisces-compendium.pdf>.