

## **Pine Mountain Dam Reevaluation Study Scoping Meetings October 26 and 27**

### **What is the Pine Mountain Dam Study?**

A study to look at alternatives, including Pine Mountain Dam, for a clean and sustainable source of drinking water for the municipalities that comprise the River Valley Regional Water District (RVRWD). Pine Mountain Dam is one alternative that will be examined. The other alternatives are still being formulated.

### **Who is the River Valley Regional Water District?**

City of Van Buren, City of Alma, City of Kibler, City of Mountainburg, Cedarville Waterworks Facilities Board of Crawford County, Concord Waterworks Facilities Board of Crawford County, Highway 71 Water Users Association

### **What alternatives are being studied?**

A list of alternatives under consideration is available. The alternatives will be compared to the “No Action” plan, which is for the River Valley Regional Water District to continue to buy water from the cities of either Fort Smith or Alma. If more alternatives become available at the meeting, the list will be edited.

### **Are you going to build a dam?**

Pine Mountain Dam is one of the alternatives that will be evaluated in the study process. It will be compared to the other alternatives including the no action plan.

### **What is an Environmental Impact Statement and General Reevaluation Report?**

The Environmental Impact Statement or EIS is prepared to provide discussion of significant environmental impacts and inform decision makers and the public of reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts to the human environment. The EIS serves as a device to insure that the policies and goals defined in the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) are infused in the actions of the Federal Government. The EIS will evaluate each alternative and identify the effects to the human environment.

The General Reevaluation Report or GRR is a decision document prepared by the Corps of Engineers concurrently with the EIS. In the GRR, the Corps of Engineers evaluates the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the alternatives. The GRR will discuss the National Economic Development or NED plan that has the greatest economic benefits.

### **What happens next?**

This year we will evaluate the needs for the River Valley Regional Water District. We will look at the existing supplies to see how the two compare. If the needs can be met into the future, there will be no government interest in the project.

### **How long will this process take?**

Assuming Full Funding

- Public Scoping - Fall 2009
- Agency coordination - Winter 2009-2010
- Draft Report and Public Comment– Summer 2013
- Final Report and Public Comment– Summer 2014
- Report Finalized - 2017