

Lime Sludge Lagoon Bids Awarded

The Clay RWS Board of Directors has awarded a bid to construct three new lime-sludge drying lagoons at the Wakonda water treatment plant. A total of four bids were received and the bid was awarded to the low bidder, Runge Enterprises of Sioux Falls, SD for \$470,708.14. The engineers estimate for the work was \$482,600.00.

The lagoons are used to dry lime sludge, a byproduct of the softening process at the plant.

The sludge is allowed to dry in the lagoons and is then removed and land applied by a private contractor. The water system has been using lime since the mid-1990's when the Wakonda water plant was remodeled into a softening plant. At that time two lagoons were constructed on land leased from a private landowner. The lease recently expired.

Runge expects to start work in 2012. Completion date for the work is October 1, 2012. The

water system has been using a backwash water lagoon as a temporary storage lagoon for lime sludge.

Each lagoon is designed to hold one year's accumulation of sludge. The lagoons will be rotated to allow the sludge to dry prior to being removed. Dried lime sludge is land applied to adjust pH. Studies have shown the lime sludge is a very beneficial soil additive when properly applied.

