

## ARPA Utility Projects Monthly Update

- The non-competitive, collaborative Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) grant application was submitted on September 29, 2022. The application is in the queue and ready for review by TDEC staff.
  
- The engineering procurement process is in the final stages.
  - The process was structured to allow the utilities to select from a list of engineering firms who responded to a request for qualifications and who met the criteria necessary to perform the work.
  - Contracts are being negotiated with attorneys. The County has engaged a law firm specializing in federal grant compliance to review the documents.
  - The contracts for the Tuckaleechee Utility District (TUD) and the South Blount Utility District (SBUD) Blockhouse projects will be executed after a final review since they are funded by the County's direct ARPA allocation.
  - The contracts for the remaining projects will be completed but cannot be executed until a contract with TDEC is in place.
  
- Bid documents for the pipe and materials are under review by a consulting firm to ensure compliance with federal procurement provisions. The TUD and SCUD Blockhouse projects will be bid first. The remaining projects will be bid once a contract with TDEC is in place.