

WATER BRIGADES PROJECT FOLLOW UP: LA CONCEPCIÓN

DATE OF FOLLOW UP VISIT: 21 June 2014

System Background

La Concepcion's pump-based water system was completed in June 23, 2012. The system connects 115 houses, 1 kindergarten school, 1 primary school, 3 churches and 1 health center to a sufficient supply of potable water. The system consists of a well, pump, and treatment tank.

Summary of Follow-Up

Water Brigades staff and Mississippi State University carried out the following activities during the follow-up visit:

- Completed a walk-through of the system including the pump and treatment tank
- Tested chlorine levels in the treatment tank and 3 houses
- Held a meeting with the Water Council



Observations

The pump propels water to the 12,000 gallon at a rate of 26 GPM, and stays turned on a 10 hour daily basis, and the water is distributed into two sectors, each sector receiving water every day so.

To protect the tank, they made a rock wall for preventing rocks or dirt sliding and hitting the tank and breaking it.

They are having a good record keeping and good balance savings account. In the community bank, they have savings of about 50,000 lempiras and in a commercial bank account they have 22,000 lempiras.

Present at the Water Council meeting were the secretary, treasurer, Prosecutor, and vocal 1. The council reported that they meet regularly as a council once every two months as well as quarterly with the community. Payments from community members are regular and on time at a rate of 70 lempiras per month. Late payments receive a warning followed up temporary disconnection.



We found no recent problems nor did we identify any needed repairs on the system. We found that 6% of the community has missed a water payment which is an acceptable rate. Once the rainy season comes in and community members can harvest some corn or bean, then they can sell the crops and repay their debt to the water council.

Recommendations and Response

GB recommends the Water Council increase the levels of chlorine taken into disinfection from 7.0 oz to 9.0 oz, because a house near the tank and a house in middle of the distribution network only had 0.5 PPM, and the recommended levels are between 2.0 and 4.0 PPM.