



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Curt Fransen, Director

August 9, 2013

Honorable Clay Larkin, Mayor
City of Post Falls
408 N. Spokane Street
Post Falls, Idaho 83854

RE: Environmental Determination for the City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment
Improvement Project

Dear Mayor Larkin:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the Environmental Information Document for the August 2013 *Environmental Information Document for the City of Post Falls, Idaho Water Reclamation Facility Improvements*. The potential impacts on a number of environmentally sensitive resources were evaluated in the environmental review. The City of Post Falls project engineer consulted with a number of appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant issues. The project meets state and federal criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) since the environmental review process indicated no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project.

A FONSI legal notice will be published in the *Coeur d'Alene Press*, newspaper of record for the City of Post Falls. DEQ has requested the *Coeur d'Alene Press* publish the legal notice one (1) time, on one (1) day, on Thursday, August 15, 2013. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain a copy of the full FONSI for review and will give instructions on how they can submit comments. A 30 day public comment period will follow the FONSI legal notice publication. Should there be public comments and concerns related to the project or FONSI, DEQ may ask your help in preparing responses.

Following the 30 day public comment period, any significant comments or concerns will be considered and incorporated as appropriate into the *final* FONSI determination for the referenced project. After issuance of the *final* FONSI, and with approval of all technical considerations in the facility plan, DEQ will proceed with the issuance of a State Revolving Fund loan.

Honorable Clay Larkin, Mayor
City of Post Falls
August 9, 2013
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Katy Baker-Casile at the DEQ Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, 208-666-4640, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep her informed of progress on the project.

Sincerely,



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:EC:dls

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office
Katy Baker-Casile, DEQ Coeur d'Alene Office
Terry Werner, Public Services Director, City of Post Falls, (twerner@postfallsidaho.org)
Paul Klatt, J-U-B Engineers, Inc., (pklatt@jub.com)
Michael Conn, J-U-B Engineers, Inc., (mconn@jub.com)

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: August 9, 2013
To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals
Subject: Environmental Determination for the City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project

In accordance with the Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans (IDAPA 58.01.12), an environmental review has been performed and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on the project described below:

Project:	City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project
Location:	Post Falls, Kootenai County, Idaho
DEQ Loan Number:	TBD
Total Loan Project Cost:	\$10,836,000.00

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF IMPACTS:

Purpose of Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to make the necessary wastewater treatment improvements to meet the city's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge limits in the Spokane River.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves the following wastewater treatment improvements within the existing footprint of the wastewater treatment facility:

- Relocation and expansion of the headworks with flow equalization
- Construction of a secondary clarifier No. 8
- Addition of mechanical equipment to oxidation ditch 6
- Construction a phosphorus removal filtration system
- Improvements to the existing ultraviolet disinfection system
- Improvements to the laboratory/supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA)
- Expansion of the solids handling and processing system
- Construction of a maintenance building

Direct and Indirect Impacts: An environmental information document (EID) was prepared by J-U-B Engineers (JUB), consulting engineer for the City of Post Falls. JUB and DEQ consulted with the appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant environmentally sensitive resources. Based on consultation with agency experts, JUB and DEQ evaluated the potential short and long term impacts, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the wastewater improvement project. The evaluation emphasized site specific components of the environment that is most likely to be impacted by the construction and operation of the proposed improvements. The results of the project evaluation indicate there will be environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

Short term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the treatment system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of

localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- **Air Quality:** Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the DEQ Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, IDAPA 58.01.01.651 (rule). The rule states that reasonable precautions for dust control and suppression include using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, it is recommended that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes DEQ Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- **Cultural Resources:** If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments or other human made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the Tribe, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent. If human remains are discovered the City of Post Falls Police Department and the Kootenai County Coroner will be contacted and work will not resume until law enforcement has also released the site.
- **Stormwater:** Stormwater shall be avoided by having equipment available to put appropriate containment systems into service in a timely manner. Examples of containment systems include silt fences, temporary berms, and vegetative or mulch cover, and installing drains to control surface runoff and to minimize soil loss.
- **Odor:** The following mitigation measures will be implemented to address odor issues: the use of "Vapex" odor control system in the headworks building; lime addition to dewatered solids/sludge; installation of odor control blocks around the solids/sludge storage building; and covering the new equalization basin.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.
- Any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

The City of Post Falls will also obtain appropriate permits as required by any local, state or federal agency for activities taking place during project construction.

Beneficial Impacts: Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long term positive effects through improved water quality and wastewater effluent discharge to the Spokane River.

Finding: The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement does not need to be prepared for the proposed project. Instead, a FONSI is hereby issued by DEQ. This decision is made following a careful review of the June 2013 *City of Post Falls Water Reclamation Facility, Facility Plan, Final*; August 2013 *Environmental Information Document for City of Post Falls, Idaho Water Reclamation Facility Improvements*; and supporting documentation.

AVAILABILITY OF COPIES:

Copies of the notice of a FONSI, the June 2013 *City of Post Falls Water Reclamation Facility, Facility Plan, Final*; August 2013 *Environmental Information Document for City of Post Falls, Idaho Water Reclamation Facility Improvements*; and supporting documentation upon which it is based are available for public review on the DEQ web site at <www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities> or at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality State Office
Division of Water Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/Loan SERP Contact: Ester Ceja, 208-373-0585

Department of Environmental Quality Coeur d'Alene Regional Office
2100 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
Regional Office Contact: Katy Baker -Casile, 208-666-4640

City of Post Falls
408 N. Spokane Street
Post Falls, Idaho 83854
Contact: Mayor Clay Larkin, 208-773-3511

The public will be informed about the proposed project and their opportunity for comment through the *Coeur d'Alene Press*, one time in the Thursday, August 15, 2013 publication.

Public Comments: Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on the DEQ web site <www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities> or addressed to:

Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
Grant and Loan Program
1410 North Hilton Street
Boise, Idaho 83706
Attention: Ester Ceja, Grant/Loan SERP Staff

All comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before September 16, 2013. After an evaluation of public comment, DEQ will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days after publication of the draft FONSI Notice.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: August 9, 2013

To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals

Subject: Environmental Determination for the City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project

In accordance with the Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans (IDAPA 58.01.12), an environmental review has been performed and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the following project:

City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project
Kootenai County
Post Falls, Idaho

This environmental determination was made as a result of the review process indicating no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project. There may be several environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

Short term and long term impacts may occur during project construction that include temporary disruption of the treatment system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- **Air Quality:** Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the DEQ Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, IDAPA 58.01.01.651 (rule). The rule states that reasonable precautions for dust control and suppression include using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, it is recommended that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes DEQ Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- **Cultural Resources:** If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments or other human made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the Tribe, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent. If human remains are discovered the City of Post Falls Police Department and the Kootenai County Coroner will be contacted and work will not resume until law enforcement has also released the site.
- **Stormwater:** Stormwater shall be avoided by having equipment available to put appropriate containment systems into service in a timely manner. Examples of containment systems include silt fences, temporary berms, and vegetative or mulch cover, and installing drains to control surface runoff and to minimize soil loss.
- **Odor:** The following mitigation measures will be implemented to address odor issues: the use of "Vapex" odor control system in the headworks building; lime addition to dewatered solids/sludge; installation of odor control blocks around the solids/sludge storage building; and covering the new equalization basin.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.

- Any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

The City of Post Falls will also obtain appropriate permits as required by any local, state or federal agency for activities taking place during project construction.

Beneficial Impacts: Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long term positive effects through improved water quality and wastewater effluent discharge to the Spokane River.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves the following wastewater treatment improvements within the existing footprint of the wastewater treatment facility:

- Relocation and expansion of the headworks with flow equalization
- Construction of a secondary clarifier No. 8
- Addition of mechanical equipment to oxidation ditch 6
- Construction a phosphorus removal filtration system
- Improvements to the existing ultraviolet disinfection system
- Improvements to the laboratory/supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA)
- Expansion of the solids handling and processing system
- Construction of a maintenance building

Copies Available: Copies of the *full* FONSI, the facility plan, the Environmental Information Document and supporting documentation upon which it is based are available for public review on the DEQ web site at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality State Office
Division of Water Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/Loan SERP Contact: Ester Ceja, 208-373-0585

Department of Environmental Quality Coeur d'Alene Regional Office
2100 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
Regional Office Contact: Katy Baker –Casile, 208-666-4640

City of Post Falls
408 N. Spokane Street
Post Falls, Idaho 83854
Contact: Mayor Clay Larkin, 208-773-3511

Public Comments: Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on the DEQ website < www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities > or addressed to:

Ester Ceja, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, Loan Program, 1410 N. Hilton Street, Boise, Idaho 83706.

Such comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before September 16, 2013. Public comments will be considered in finalizing the planning phase of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the date of publication.

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator



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DEPARTMENT OF
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1410 North Hilton • Boise, ID 83706 • (208) 373-0502

C. L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Curt Fransen, Director

August 9, 2013

Coeur d'Alene Press
legals@cdapress.com

RE: Legal Notice Publication: Notification of a Finding of No Significant Impact for the
City of Post Falls Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project

Dear Coeur d'Alene Press:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality requests the enclosed legal notice be published in your newspaper. This request is to satisfy the state rule requirement that the notice of an environmental determination be given in advance of the intended action. To comply with the aforementioned legal requirements and the dates contained in the legal notice, we hereby request the legal notice be published one time, on one day, on Thursday, August 15, 2013.

Please compress the legal notice by eliminating any unnecessary lines and spaces. A formatted legal notice is attached for your convenience. If you are unable to publish on the requested date, please call for further instructions.

Following publication, please send: one (1) affidavit; one (1) proof of publication; and the billing invoice to:

Dawn Shepherd
Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

Failure to send the billing invoice to the address and contact person identified above could result in a delay in the processing of your invoice.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Please call Ester Ceja at 208-373-0585 if you have any questions.

MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ Loan Program Coordinator

Enclosure: Formatted Legal Notice