

## Form 5-E Sample Categorical Exclusion Determination

*Date*

### **Categorical Exclusion Determination for the Proposed (Name of Project), (County Name) County, (City or Town), State**

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted a review and analysis of the *(date, name of planning document/categorical exclusion support document/ environmental information document)* in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of the Drinking Water Loan Program” (IDAPA 58.01.20), or the “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities” (IDAPA 58.01.22). DEQ has determined that this project does not involve any extraordinary circumstances requiring additional environmental analysis and documentation and is therefore eligible for a categorical exclusion (Cat Ex). (If a project is a multiple phased project, identify which phases the Cat Ex applies to.) Accordingly, the project *(or specify phases of the project)* is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements under SERP.

Description of Project: *(Insert a brief description of the proposed project.)*

*(Insert a brief statement of why the proposed project meets the criteria for granting and the criteria for not granting a categorical exclusion. Sample language follows.)*

DEQ has determined that this project is consistent with criteria for issuing a categorical exclusion for the following reasons:

- The proposed facility improvements are solely directed toward minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, functional replacement of equipment, or the construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities.
- (Insert for point of use cat ex) Installation of point-of-use reverse osmosis treatment units with a discharge of residuals to wastewater system in accordance with the “Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems” (IDAPA 58.01.04.450) and point-of-use guidance.
- The facility improvements will not provide capacity to serve a population that is projected to grow at a rate 25% in excess of the 20-year population growth rate expectations for the state as a whole as projected by the Idaho Division of Financial Management; and is not expected to change the current system’s population by greater than 500 Estimated Residential Units (ERUs).
- There will be no significant effect on the quality of the human environment either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other federal, state, local, or private actions as a result of this project.
- There will be no direct or indirect effects *(a)* cultural resource sites; *(b)* endangered or threatened species or their habitats; *(c)* essential fish habitat; *(d)* environmentally important natural resource areas such as flood plains; wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, important farmlands, aquifer recharge zones; or *(e)* other resource areas identified in DEQ guidance, and

- The alternative selected by the (name of applicant) for construction is cost-effective and has not caused significant public controversy.

The (*project contractor or other identified responsible party*) is responsible for managing temporary disruptions of the system as well as noise, dust pollution, and stormwater runoff related to construction of the project. (*Insert standard mitigation language as appropriate for temporary disruptions.*)

Overall, completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects by improving (*briefly describe beneficial effects here*).

The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for public review on DEQ's website at [www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx) or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division  
1410 North Hilton Street  
Boise, Idaho 83706  
Attention: Grant/Loan SERP Contact  
*Phone Number*

Department of Environmental Quality  
*Name of Regional Office*  
*Regional Office Address*  
*Regional Office Address*  
*Name of Regional SRF Staff Engineer, P.E.*  
*Phone Number*

*Applicant*  
*Applicant Address*  
*Applicant Address*  
*Phone Number*

A one-time publication is required in the local newspaper of (record or greatest distribution). DEQ has requested that the (*name of newspaper*) newspaper publish the Cat Ex legal notice for (*project name*) one time on (month *day*, *year*). The legal notice will inform the public that the proposed project has received a Cat Ex, which excludes the project from further environmental review.

The Cat Ex and published legal notice should be made part of the final planning document for this project.

*Signature*

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*Name*  
Administrator, Water Quality Division