



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502
www.deq.idaho.gov

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

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Merlin Smedley
Mayor of the City of Burley
P.O. Box 1090
Burley, Idaho 83318

RE: Categorical Exclusion for the City of Burley Drinking Water Project (DWG 127-2012-8)

Dear Mayor Smedley:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the categorical request letter and supporting documentation for the City of Burley drinking water project and has issued a categorical exclusion (Cat Ex) determination. A Cat Ex exempts the referenced project from further substantive environmental review requirements because no environmental effects were found. Enclosed is a signed copy of the Cat Ex for the referenced project.

DEQ has requested that the *Times-News*, newspaper of record for the City of Burley, publish the enclosed Cat Ex legal notice for the referenced project one time on March 13, 2015. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain copies of the full Cat Ex.

The City of Burley should keep a copy of the Cat Ex and the legal notice as published for their records. No required public comment or waiting period is required after notification of a Cat Ex. Following publication of the legal notice, you may proceed with the closure of the DEQ planning grant.

Brian Reed at the DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office, (208) 737-3870 is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep him informed of progress on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barry N. Burnell".

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:EC:dls

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office
Charlie Parkins, DEQ State Office
Brian Reed, DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office
Marliese Breuer Von-Huene, Keller Associates, (mbreuer@kellerassociates.com)
Roland Rocha, Keller Associates, (rrocha@kellerassociates.com)

March 9, 2015

**Categorical Exclusion Determination for the City of Burley Drinking Water Project,
Cassia County, Burley, Idaho**

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted an environmental review of the March 3, 2015 *Burley Water Improvement Project-Request for Categorical Exclusion* letter for the City of Burley in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) and 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). Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements under the SERP.

Project Description: The proposed project consists of booster station improvements at well#4 and expansion of the well house. In addition, the city will repair and replace tank components for the water tanks at well #4 and well #5.

DEQ has determined that this project is consistent with criteria for issuing a Cat Ex 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.
- The facility improvements will not provide the 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 according to the Idaho Division of Financial Management projections, although it is expected to change the current system's population by greater than 500 estimated residential units.
- 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 affects to (a) cultural resource sites; (b) endangered or threatened species or their habitats; (c) essential fish habitat; (d) environmentally important natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, important farmlands, aquifer recharge zones; or (e) other resource areas identified in DEQ's guidance.
- The alternative selected by the City of Burley for construction is cost-effective and has not caused significant public controversy.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the drinking water 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 "Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho" (IDAPA 58.01.01.651). IDAPA 58.01.01.651 states that reasonable precautions shall be taken for dust control and suppression by using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, DEQ recommends that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes best management practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control. Emergency

generators must comply with Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.

- 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), the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
- 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.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.
- Implement any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

Overall, completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects by providing a reliable water supply and fire flow.

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 or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/loan SERP contact: Ester Ceja
208-373-0585

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Twin Falls Regional Office
650 Addison Avenue West, Suite 110
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Regional Office contact: Brian Reed
208-737-3870

City of Burley
P.O. Box 1090
Burley, Idaho 83318
Contact: Mayor Merlin Smedley
208-878-2224

A one-time publication is required in the newspaper of record. DEQ has requested the *Times-News* publish the Cat Ex legal notice for City of Burley drinking water project one time on March 13, 2015. 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.

Barry N. Burnell

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR THE
CITY OF BURLEY DRINKING WATER PROJECT

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that the proposed drinking water project for the City of Burley, Cassia County, Idaho, conforms to the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) and the "Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities" (IDAPA 58.01.22) by which the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements.

Project Description: The proposed project consists of booster station improvements at well#4 and expansion of the well house. In addition, the city will repair and replace tank components for the water tanks at well #4 and well #5.

Copies of the notice of categorical exclusion and the environmental information document upon which it is based are available for public review on DEQ's website at 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
Boise, Idaho 83706
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208-373-0585

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Twin Falls Regional Office
650 Addison Avenue West, Suite 110
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Regional Office contact: Brian Reed
208-737-3870

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