

December 9, 2011

**Categorical Exclusion Determination for the City of Cascade Wastewater Collection
System Improvement Project
Valley County, Cascade, Idaho**

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted an environmental review and analysis of the September 2011 *Categorical Exclusion City of Cascade Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 1 & Phase 2* in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the Rules for Administration of Wastewater Treatment Facility Grants (IDAPA 58.01.20) and the Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans (IDAPA 58.01.12). DEQ has determined that this project does not involve any extraordinary circumstances which require additional environmental analysis and documentation and is therefore eligible for a Categorical Exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempt from further substantive environmental review requirements under the state environmental review procedures.

The proposed collection system improvements are identified in phases. Phase I includes the following: replacement of the transmission line from the plant to Mill Street; the replacement of the collection line along Lakeshore Drive; improvements to the Harpo's area; replacement of collection lines along east and west service way associated with roof drains or other storm water connections; and construction of a new lift station at the existing lift station city shop location.

Phase II includes further collection line replacement and construction of new manholes, more specifically the following: installing a new sewer collection line parallel to Highway 55 south of the Pinewood Lodge to the sports complex; installing new collection lines along Cabarton Road; installing new collection lines and manholes on the west end of Spring Street to eliminate the undersized lines and lines without manholes.

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, and the construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent 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, and be expected to change the current system's population by greater than 500 estimated residential units (ERU's).
- 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 resources sites; (b) endangered or threatened species or their habitats; (c) environmentally important natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands, aquifer recharge zones; or (d) other resource areas identified in DEQ's guidance.

Short term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the wastewater collection 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.
- 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.
- Cultural Resources: If archeological artifacts are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe must be notified.
- Any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

Overall, completion of the proposed project will have positive effects by protecting ground water quality by reducing inflow and infiltration caused by leaky collection lines.

The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for public review on the DEQ web site at <<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx>> or at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1410 N. Hilton Street
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/Loan SERP Coordinator: Ester Ceja
208-373-0585

Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Regional Office
1445 N. Orchard
Boise, Idaho 83706
Regional Staff Engineer Contact: Jack Gantz
208-373-0599

City of Cascade
105 South Main Street
Cascade, Idaho 83611
City Contact: Mayor Richard W. Carter
208-382-4279

To comply with the Rules for Administration of Wastewater treatment Facility Grants (IDAPA 58.01.20) and the Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans (IDAPA 58.01.12), a one-time publication is required in the newspaper of record. DEQ has requested the *Star News* newspaper publish the Categorical Exclusion legal notice for the City of Cascade wastewater collection system improvement project (1) time on Thursday, December 15, 2011. The legal notice will inform the public that the proposed project has received a Categorical Exclusion which excludes the project from further environmental review.

The Categorical Exclusion and published notice should be made part of the final facility plan for this project.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator