



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  
John H. Tippetts, Director

March 30, 2016

The Honorable Dave Madsen  
Mayor of the City of Bloomington  
P.O. Box 194  
Bloomington, Idaho 83223

RE: Draft finding of no significant impact for the Bloomington Water  
Facilities Project - DWG 113-2011-6

Dear Mayor Madsen:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document for the Bloomington Water Facilities project. The potential impacts on a number of environmentally sensitive resources were evaluated in the environmental review. The City of Bloomington project engineer consulted with the 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 *News Examiner*, newspaper of record for Bear Lake County. DEQ has requested the *News Examiner* publish the legal notice one time, on one day, on April 6, 2016. 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. If public comments and concerns arise 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 planning document, DEQ will close the DEQ planning grant.

Andrew Fellows at DEQ Pocatello Regional Office, (208) 239-5016, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep him informed of progress on the project.

The Honorable Dave Madsen  
Mayor of the City of Bloomington  
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Refer comments regarding the environmental review to Aimee Hill in the State Office at  
(208) 373-0556 or via [aimee.hill@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:aimee.hill@deq.idaho.gov).

Sincerely,



Barry N. Burnell  
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:ahh:dls

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office (TRIM)  
Charlie Parkins, DEQ State Office (TRIM)  
Andrew Fellows, DEQ PRO (TRIM)  
Jason Linford, P.E. Sunrise Engineering ([jlinford@sunrise-eng.com](mailto:jlinford@sunrise-eng.com))

## DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Date:** March 30, 2016  
**To:** All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals  
**Subject:** Environmental determination for the Bloomington Water Facilities Project

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), the “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities” (IDAPA 58.01.22) and the “Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program” (IDAPA 58.01.20), an environmental review has been performed and a draft finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is hereby issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

|                   |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Project:          | Bloomington Water Facilities         |
| Location:         | Bloomington, Bear Lake County, Idaho |
| DEQ Grant Number: | DWG 113-2011-6                       |
| DEQ Grant Costs:  | \$25,750.00                          |

### PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF IMPACTS:

**Purpose of Project:** The purpose of the proposed project is to upgrade the water transmission and distribution system and provide redundancy in the community water supply by adding a connection line between the communities of Bloomington and Paris.

**Description of the Project:** The proposed project consists of the following improvements:

The City of Bloomington is proposing to upsize their existing water transmission line from the existing storage tanks into the City. The new line will consist of 12-inch pipe and will follow the route of the existing pipe. Transmission line in town will be upsized in some sections to increase available fire flows throughout the system.

The project also involves construction of a 5,280-foot long, 10-inch line that will provide a connection along US Highway 89 between the City and the neighboring Paris system. This line will provide source redundancy for each system and would only be used during an emergency.

**Direct and Indirect Impacts:** An environmental information document (EID) was prepared by Sunrise Engineering (Sunrise), consulting engineer for the City of Bloomington (City). Sunrise and DEQ consulted with the appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant environmentally sensitive resources. Based on consultation with agency officials, Sunrise and DEQ evaluated the potential short-term and long-term impacts, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the drinking water improvement project. The evaluation emphasized site-specific components of the environment that are 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.

The EID identifies the potential for direct, short-term impacts to waters of the US and wetlands. The Army Corps of Engineers has issued a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination which identifies the potential for impact to emergent wetlands along US Highway 89 and a canal/intermittent stream crossing in Bloomington Canyon. Project plans will avoid the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US, however Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12, “Utility Line Activities” may be required. No mitigation measures are proposed.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction including temporary disruption of the collection and treatment systems, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for the implementation of any and all appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive elements during construction activities as well as 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.
- 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), Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, and the Northwestern Band of Shoshone 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.
- Waters and Wetlands: Bloomington Creek, Little Canyon, an unnamed canal and associated emergent wetlands may be temporarily impacted during construction of the upsized lines and the new transmission connection line. Should the proposed crossings of these waters be completed by open trenching, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit #12 may be required. Appropriate BMPs will be implemented as required and wherever possible to avoid or minimize impacts to these waters.
- Noise: Impacts to sensitive receptors in the general vicinity of project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.

The following permits will be required for this project:

- Section 404 CWA Nationwide Permit #12 from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (if necessary, see above)
- Any other local, state, or federal permit required for activities taking place during project construction.

**Beneficial Impacts:** Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects to public health and water conservation by rectifying deficiencies in the drinking water system.

**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 February 2016 *Bloomington Culinary Water Facilities Plan and Environmental Information Document*.

**AVAILABILITY OF COPIES:**

Copies of the notice of a FONSI and the February 2016 *Bloomington Culinary Water Facilities Plan and Environmental Information Document* are available for public review on DEQ's website at [www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities) or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division  
1410 North Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706  
Grant/loan SERP contact: Aimee Hill – (208) 373-0556

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Pocatello Regional Office  
444 Hospital Way #300  
Pocatello, Idaho 83201  
Regional Office contact: Andrew Fellows – (208) 239-5016

City of Bloomington  
P.O. Box 194  
Bloomington, Idaho 83223  
Contact: Mayor Dave Madsen – (208) 995-3169  
Email: [BloomingtonIdaho@aol.com](mailto:BloomingtonIdaho@aol.com)

The public will be informed about the proposed project and their opportunity for comment through the *News Examiner* one time in the April 6, 2016 publication.

**Public Comments:** Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website [www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities) or addressed to the following contact:

Aimee Hill  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Grant and Loan Program  
1410 North Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706

All comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before May 6, 2016. After an evaluation of public comment, DEQ will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after publication of the draft FONSI notice.



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Barry N. Burnell  
Water Quality Division Administrator

## LEGAL NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Date:** March 30, 2016  
**To:** All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals  
**Subject:** Environmental determination for the Bloomington Water Facilities Project

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), the “Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities” (IDAPA 58.01.22) and the “Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program” (IDAPA 58.01.20), an environmental review has been performed and a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the following project:

Bloomington Water Facilities Project  
Bear Lake County  
Bloomington, 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.

The EID identifies the potential for direct, short-term impacts to waters of the US and wetlands. The Army Corps of Engineers has issued a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination which identifies the potential for impact to emergent wetlands along US Highway 89 and a canal/intermittent stream crossing in Bloomington Canyon. Project plans will avoid the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US, however Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12, “Utility Line Activities” may be required. No mitigation measures are proposed.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that include temporary disruption of the collection and treatment system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for the implementation of any and all appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive elements during construction activities as well as managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

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- **Noise:** Impacts to sensitive receptors in the general vicinity of project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.

The following permits will be obtained for the project:

- Section 404 CWA Nationwide Permit #12 (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) (if necessary, see above)
- Any other local, state, or federal permit required for activities taking place during project construction.

**Beneficial Impacts:** Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects to public health and water conservation by rectifying deficiencies in the drinking water system.

**Purpose of Project:** The purpose of the proposed project is to upgrade the water transmission and distribution system and provide redundancy in the community water supply by adding a connection line between the communities of Bloomington and Paris.

**Description of the Project:** The proposed project consists of the following improvements:

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**Copies Available:** Copies of the notice of a FONSI and the February 2016 *Bloomington Culinary Water Facilities Plan and Environmental Information Document* are available for public review on DEQ's website at [www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities) or at the following locations:

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 Water Quality Division  
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 Boise, Idaho 83706  
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Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
 Pocatello Regional Office  
 444 Hospital Way #300  
 Pocatello, Idaho 83201  
 Regional Office contact: Andrew Fellows – (208) 239-5016

City of Bloomington  
 P.O. Box 194  
 Bloomington, Idaho 83223  
 Contact: Mayor Dave Madsen – (208) 995-3169  
 Email: [BloomingtonIdaho@aol.com](mailto:BloomingtonIdaho@aol.com)

**Public Comments:** Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website at [www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities) or addressed to the following contact:

Aimee Hill  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Loan Program  
1410 North Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706

Such comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before Friday, May 6, 2016. 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 30 calendar days from the date of publication.

Barry N. Burnell  
Water Quality Division Administrator