



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. Tippets, Director

July 8, 2016

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

RE: Categorical exclusion for the City of Bloomington Wastewater Facility
Improvements

Dear Mayor Madsen:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document for the City of Bloomington Wastewater Facility Improvements 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 *News Examiner*, the newspaper of record for the City of Bloomington, publish the enclosed Cat Ex legal notice for the referenced project one time on July 13, 2016. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain copies of the full Cat Ex.

The City of Bloomington 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 next phase of the project. Andrew Fellows at the DEQ Pocatello Office, (208) 239-5016, is your local DEQ contact and MaryAnna Peavey is your contact at the DEQ State Office regarding the loan application. Please keep them 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:ahh:dls

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office maryanna.peavey@deq.idaho.gov
Charlie Parkins, DEQ State Office Charlie.parkins@deq.idaho.gov

July 7, 2016

Categorical Exclusion Determination for the Proposed

City of Bloomington Wastewater Utility Improvements, Bear Lake County, Bloomington, Idaho

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted an environmental review and analysis of the March 2016 City of Bloomington Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report Facility Planning Study in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), "Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans" (IDAPA 58.01.12). 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). This Cat Ex applies to all phases identified in the Environmental Review listed below. Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements under the SERP. Issuance of a Cat Ex or omission of any regulatory requirement from environmental review by DEQ does not absolve the applicant from meeting all applicable regulations.

The project consists of the investigation, cleaning and subsequent repair and replacement of existing sewer lines that have infiltration leaks into the system. The project also includes exposing all buried manholes and raising the lids above ground level or flush with the surface of the road and replacing all non-vented lids with vented lids.

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, and is not 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 Bloomington 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 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 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), the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, and the Northwestern Band, 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 runoff shall be handled through an Environmental Protection Agency Stormwater Construction General permit and the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP and stormwater BMPs will be implemented prior to, during, and after project construction to reduce the potential for erosion from runoff.
- 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 improving wastewater collection and treatment system issues. The proposed project will protect water quality and public health.

The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for public review 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

A one-time publication is required in the newspaper of record. DEQ has requested the *News Examiner* publish the Cat Ex legal notice for City of Bloomington Wastewater Utility Improvements one time on *July 13, 2016*. 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
 Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR THE
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON WASTEWATER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that the proposed wastewater improvement project for the City of Bloomington, Bear Lake County, Idaho, conforms to the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) and “Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans” (IDAPA 58.01.12) by which the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements.

The project consists of the investigation, cleaning and subsequent repair and replacement of existing sewer lines that have infiltration leaks into the system. The project also includes exposing all buried manholes and raising the lids above ground level or flush with the surface of the road and replacing all non-vented lids with vented lids.

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C. L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
John H. Tippets, Director

July 7, 2016

News Examiner
mhigley@news-examiner.net

RE: Legal notice publication: notification of a Categorical Exclusion for the
Bloomington Wastewater Facility Improvements

Dear Ms. Higley:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality requests the enclosed legal notice be published in your newspaper. This request satisfies 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 request the legal notice be published one time, on one day, on July 13, 2016.

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

Following publication, send one affidavit; one proof of publication; and the billing invoice to the following contact:

Dawn Shepherd
Idaho 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. If time allows, please send a proof copy for review before publishing.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please call Aimee Hill at (208) 373-0556 if you have any questions.

MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ Loan Program Coordinator

Enclosure: Formatted legal notice