



EXHIBIT 8  
DATE 01/13/05  
HB 2

## City of Kalispell

\*Amy Robertson, Finance Director \*Post Office Box 1997\*Kalispell, Montana 59903-1997  
\*Telephone (406) 758-7755\*Fax (406) 758-7758\*e-mail: arobertson@kalispell.com

Date: January 12, 2005  
To: Senator Barkus  
From: Amy Robertson  
Finance Director  
RE: SRF Loan Revolving Fund

The City of Kalispell has used the state loan revolving fund program for both water and sewer projects in the past and we hope to continue to do so in the future. We have plans to expand our wastewater treatment plant in the near future as well as a project to add to the water supply for the City. We actually held a bond sale last year and declined the bids in favour of using SRF money for the utilities placed under Hwy 93 So., a project built with MDOT. Any time we can utilize a program to save the rate payers/tax payers funds will do it. We have great relations with the folks at DNRC and fully support the work they are doing. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.



---

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

---

435 Ryman Street, Missoula, Montana 59802 (406) 258-4701 FAX (406) 258-4896

Budget and Analysis  
TreasuryFinance and Debt Management  
Accounting/Utility Billing

January 12, 2005

To: Representative Rosalie Buzzas

Re: Continued Funding of State Revolving Fund Program

Please consider this a letter of support for the continuation of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program for constructing sewer, storm water and water infrastructure projects. The City of Missoula has used this program for years and considers it the primary source of funding for the City's sewer and storm water construction projects. We have utilized these funds for revenue bonds (to improve the main sewer plant and trunk lines) supported by our rate structure and for SID's (special improvement districts) for neighborhood projects benefiting just certain properties. These funds are the cheapest dollars we are able to acquire and we pass those savings right on to our citizens in the form of lower rates and assessments. The City of Missoula has well in excess of \$20,000,000 of SRF loans outstanding at the present, due to the large growth we have experienced over the years. This state program has been of great assistance to the citizens of our community by lowering their utility charges and assessments as we have placed the necessary infrastructure in place.

Sincerely,

Brentt Ramharter  
Finance Director  
City of Missoula



P.O. Box 5021, 59403-5021

January 7, 2005

Anna Miller  
Department of Natural Resources & Conservation  
1520 East Sixth Avenue  
Helena, MT 59620-2301

Dear Anna,

I wanted to take this opportunity to express the City of Great Falls' appreciation for the opportunity to work with you and DNRC in several SRF Financings over the past years. Great Falls has financed three separate projects through the SRF program since 2000. The projects include a water system upgrade totaling \$3,000,000; a wastewater plant upgrade totaling \$11,295,267; and a storm drain project occurring in conjunction with a Department of Transportation upgrade of 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Streets. The city portion of this project alone is anticipated to cost \$4,400,000. The low interest rates combined with the low costs of issuance have allowed the City to make necessary system improvements at a very low cost to our utility customers. This low cost of capital equates into lower utility rate increases to the citizens of Great Falls.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Coleen Balzarini".

Coleen Balzarini (cbalzarini@ci.great-falls.mt.us)  
Fiscal Services Director  
City of Great Falls

*Town of Geraldine*

172 East Collins Avenue  
Geraldine, Montana 59446  
Phone Town Hall (406)737-4361  
Fax (406)737-4641

Department of Natural Resource & Conservation  
Anna Miller  
1625 11th Avenue  
Helena, Mt. 59620

To whom it may concern:

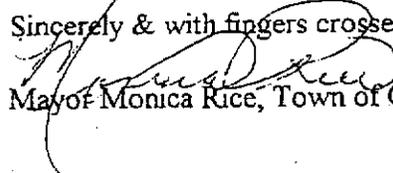
I am writing this letter in support of the State Revolving Loan fund program and the RRLG program. Over the last year the Town of Geraldine could not have accomplished all of the work to our aging infrastructure systems without this funding.

Like most small rural communities in Montana, the Town of Geraldine is struggling to survive. Our population shows a negative growth with little hope of expanding anytime soon. Our sewer lagoon that was replaced in the last year was built in 1955 and in bad need of replacement. The community could not have afforded to construct this without help from the CDBG, TSEP, DNRC, RRGL and the SRF programs. If you deplete these programs a lot of small towns will suffer tremendously.

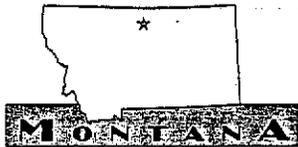
If you will observe most of the projects that will be undertaken in the next 10 years or so are replacing systems built in the 1950's. They are all failing at the same time because they were all built about the same time. With the populations shrinking the communities are going to be hard pressed to fund these projects without outright grants and low interest loans.

The schools are important but you won't need any school funding if the kids can't use the bathrooms or get a drink of water! These infrastructure projects are integral to the survival of these small communities. Please look for another way to finance the shortfalls in the state budget!

Sincerely & with fingers crossed!!!!!!

  
Mayor Monica Rice, Town of Geraldine

# CITY of HAVRE



P.O. Box 231  
Havre, MT 59501

January 2, 2003

Representative John Musgrove  
810 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Havre, MT 59501

Dear Representative Musgrove:

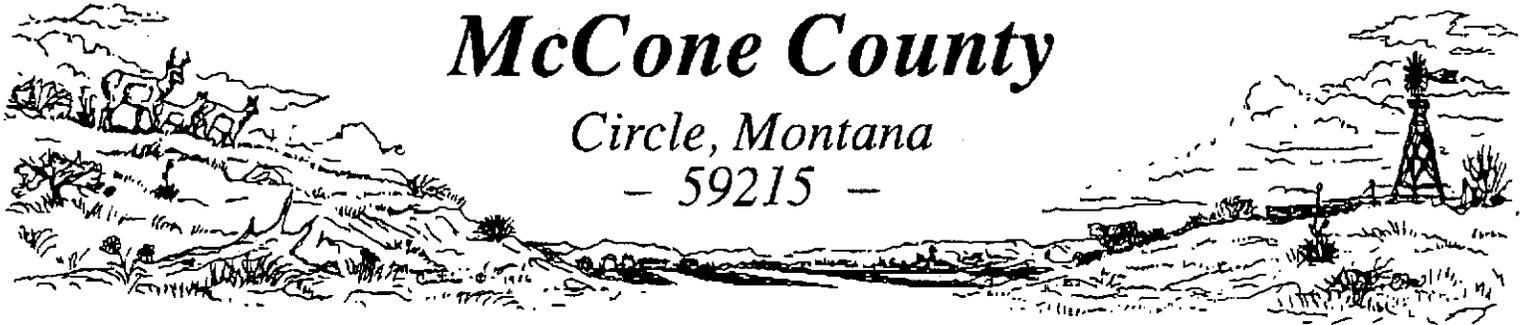
I am writing you to ask for your support of the State Revolving Fund Program. The City of Havre utilized this program to fund recent improvements to the Wastewater Plant and the Water Plant.

This funding mechanism made the projects affordable and ultimately feasible. The interest rates were the lowest we could obtain which benefits all of the City's water users. Also, the State employees we worked with were very professional and helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lowell J. Swenson".

Lowell J. Swenson  
Finance Director/City Clerk



# McCone County

Circle, Montana  
- 59215 -

January 12, 2005

State of Montana  
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
Attn: John Tubbs  
1625 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Helena, MT 59620

To Whom It May Concern:

The McCone County Commissioners unanimously and enthusiastically urge the Department of Natural Resources Legislative Committee to budget \$48,000 for a two-year period to assist the communities in completing the feasibility of the Dry Red Watter Rural Water System, and any other costs associated with the effort to supply water to the communities of Vida, Circle, Brockway, and Jordan and to the rural residences scattered throughout the area. The economic benefits of such an investment in the future is well worth any time or assistance this office may contribute.

Please count McCone County among the entities supporting the completion of the feasibility study of this rural water project!

Sincerely,

On Behalf of The McCone County Commissioners

  
Connie Eissinger, Chairman