

DS-252

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: Town of Stanford Water System Improvement.	Proposed Implementation Date: Dec. 2, 2003.
Proponent: Town of Stanford	
Type and Purpose of Action: Construction of two new wells, a pump house and a new elevated water tank.	
Location: NE1/4SE1/4, Sec, 17, T16N, R12E.	County: Judith Basin

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PROJECT DEVELOPMENT		LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE
1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.	Mt. DNRC, Joel S. Pilcher, PE of Entranco, Inc., Craig McCleod, Town of Stanford, A. Cilia Leach, Mayor, Judith Basin County Commissioners, Lessees of State Lease #5071, James A. Hubble, Judith Basin County Attorney.	
2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:	The licensee will seek a permanent easement from the state once construction is completed. The existing water tower is covered by Easement D-01526, effective 3/20/28. The Stanford water tower will be replaced upon this same Right-of-Way. This will be authorized with a letter from Clive Rooney, DNRC Area Manager upon written request.	
3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:	The "No Action" alternative. The alternative to issue LUL #3194 to the Town of Stanford to commence construction of the proposed project.	

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geological features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[N] Stable soils are present and there are no special reclamation considerations.

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

<p>5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?</p>	<p>[Y] There is always a potential for contamination and or degradation of the water supply system during the construction phase of a project like this. Water quality will be monitored and the public protected. Water quantity should increase with the addition of two new wells on line.</p>
<p>6. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?</p>	<p>[N] Pollutants and particulates should not be produced by this project. It will not be influenced by air quality regulations.</p>
<p>7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?</p>	<p>[N] There are no rare plants or cover types present. Minimal ground and vegetative disturbance will take place.</p>
<p>8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?</p>	<p>[N] This area is within the city limits of Stanford.</p>
<p>9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern?</p>	<p>[N] There are no species of special concern or endangered habitat present.</p>
<p>10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archeological, or paleontological resources present?</p>	<p>[Y] There are no historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present that were originally located here. However, the Judith Basin County Fair Grounds take up the remainder of this tract. There are historical artifacts and machinery located throughout the tract, along with a museum. These will not be disturbed during construction. If need be, they will be carefully removed to a safer location.</p>
<p>11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographical feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?</p>	<p>[Y] The project is within the city limits of Stanford. It will be very visible, especially the water tower construction.</p>

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

12.	DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[N] The construction of this water system will not use limited resources.
13.	OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?	[N] I am unaware of any other projects that are pertinent to this area.

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

14.	HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risk in the area?	[N] The results of this project should ultimately mean more water to the town's water supply. Human health and safety should benefit from this.
15.	INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[Y] This proposed water development project should alter and increase industrial, commercial and agricultural activities in the area by providing more clean and abundant supplies of water.
16.	QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.	[N] This project will not create new jobs.
17.	LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	[Y] This project is being constructed on non-taxable lands. It may affect local taxes or tax bases depending upon whether or not these taxes are increased to pay for this project.
18.	DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?	[N] There may be additional traffic added, but it should not be a substantial amount. Other services will not be required.
19.	LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc., zoning or management plans in effect?	[Y] This is within the city limits of Stanford. There are City, County and State Plans and Goals in effect.
20.	ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS	[N] There is no recreational potential outside of the museum. Wilderness and recreational areas are not

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	accessed through this tract.
21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[N] Additional housing will not be required.
22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[N] Disruption is not likely.
23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[N] There should be no shift.
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:	[N] The Town of Stanford's social and economic circumstances depend on the successful development of this project. The town is running out of water.

EA Checklist Prepared By:

BARNY D. SMITH, Lewistown Unit Manager, Northeastern Land Office

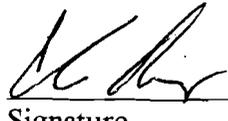


 Signature
 Date: November 20, 2003

IV. FINDING

25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:	The alternative to issue LUL #3194 to the Town of Stanford to commence construction of the proposed project.
26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:	Minimal negative impacts are expected with this project. The end result should mean a better, more plentiful water supply for the town of Stanford. Only positive impacts are anticipated.
27. Need for Further Environmental Analysis: <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> More Detailed EA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Further Analysis	

EA Checklist Approved by:
CLIVE ROONEY, Area Manager, Northeastern Land Office

 12/1/03

Signature

Date: