DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Environmental Assessment

PERMITTING AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION
PUBLIC WATER SECTION

EQ Number & Name of Project: 08-1931; 2007 Cap. Imp. Proj. (Alkali Cr. Water Main)

Location of Project: Billings Heights (Alkali Creek – Aronson area)

City/Town: Billings **County**: Yellowstone

Description of Project:

- ☐ New Well
- ☐ New Water Treatment Process
- ☐ Water System Modification
- ☒ Water Main ~~Extension~~ Replacement
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ New subsurface wastewater system
- ☐ New above-ground wastewater system
- ☐ Wastewater System Modification
- ☐ Sewer Main Extension

Agency Action:
Plan Review and approval for the above-mentioned project.

Other Agency Approvals:

- ☐ DNRC Water rights
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ DEQ Subdivision Review
- ☐ DEQ Water Discharge Permit

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
1. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are soils present which are fragile, erosive, susceptible to compaction, or unstable? Are there unusual or unstable geologic features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
2. 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?	☐ DNRC addresses water quantity impacts for wells over 35 gpm. ☐ The application does not require information on water quality impacts for wells under 35 gpm. ☐ MPDES permitting and/or non-deg analysis address impacts to water quality. ☒ Other – Water Main installation is not expected to have any impact (designed in accordance with DEQ criteria).

3. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
4. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be significantly impacted? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
5. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
6. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Species of special concern?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
7. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
8. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
9. 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? Will new or upgraded powerline or other energy source be needed)	☐ DNRC addresses water quantity impacts for wells over 35 gpm. ☐ The application does not require information on water quality impacts for wells under 35 gpm. ☐ MPDES permitting and/or non-deg analysis address impacts to water quality. ☒ Other – N/A
10. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]

IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	
11. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	[N – the project should reduce health and safety risks in the area.]
12. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
13. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review

IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	
EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.	authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
14. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
15. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
16. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
17. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
18. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
19. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
20. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
21. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:	[Analysis of this impact is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, this impact may be analyzed by those agencies.]
22(a). PRIVATE PROPERTY IMPACTS: Are we regulating the use of private property under a regulatory statute adopted pursuant to the police power of the state? (Property management, grants of financial assistance, and the exercise of the power of eminent domain are not within this category.) If not, no further analysis is required.	[No – no further analysis necessary]

23. Summary of Magnitude and Significance of Potential Impacts: *No significant impacts are applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, these impacts may be analyzed by those agencies.*

24. Cumulative Effects: *Analysis of cumulative effects is not applicable to the action being reviewed by the Public Water Plan Review Section or the Section has no review authority. If other agency approval(s) are necessary, these impacts may be analyzed by those agencies.*

25. Preferred Action Alternative and Rationale: *Approve*

Recommendation for Further Environmental Analysis:

[ ] EIS [ ] More Detailed EA [X] No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Prepared By:

Matthew Waite
(Name)

February 1, 2008
Date