

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
FOR  
DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER AUTHORITY  
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUILDING**

**TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**

Date: April 21, 2009  
Action: Funding Water System Improvements  
Location of Project: Roosevelt County, Montana  
DEQ Funding: \$57,000.  
Total Project Cost: \$948,000.

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Building for the Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority (DPRWA). The DEQ proposes to provide funding for this project.

The proposed action involves construction of an approximately 9,000 square foot building for operation and maintenance activities associated with the DPRWA. This building will be constructed in Roosevelt County Montana in Township 28 North, Range 56 East, Section 29, just north of the Town of Culbertson.

This site is a subdivision of land and as such has been reviewed and approved by Roosevelt County Planning Office and by the DEQ Subdivision program. These reviews included environmental considerations, non-degradation review and water and sewer service for the O&M building.

The affected environment will primarily be the Town of Culbertson and parts of Roosevelt County near McCabe mentioned above. The human environment affected will include residents and visitors of Roosevelt County, Montana. Based on the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment and the DEQ subdivision review, the project is not expected to have any significant adverse impacts upon terrestrial and aquatic life or habitat, including endangered species, water quality or quantity, air quality, geological features, cultural or historical features, or social quality.

This project will be funded with low interest loans through the Montana Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, administered by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

The DEQ utilized the following references in completing its environmental review of this project: 1) the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System, Fort Peck Reservation and Dry Prairie Service Areas,

dated August 2002. The lead agency for the EA was the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation (The Montana Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Natural Resources and Conservation were cooperating agencies in preparation of the EA); 2) Specifications and Drawings for Operation and Maintenance Building, dated March 2009, prepared by ARC International; and 3) subdivision review file, Montana Department of Environmental Quality EQ number 08-2956. These references are available for review upon request by contacting:

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Phone (406) 444-6770  
Email: mgolz@mt.gov

Or:

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Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority  
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Comments on this finding or on the EA may be submitted to DEQ at the above address. Comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this FONSI in the newspaper. After evaluating substantive comments received, DEQ will revise the EA or determine if an EIS is necessary. Otherwise, this finding of no significant impact will stand if no substantive comments are received during the comment period or if substantive comments are received and evaluated and the environmental impacts are still determined to be non-significant.

Signed,

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Todd Teegarden, Chief  
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau

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