

June 12, 2009

Clint Jacobs
Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority
P.O. Box 577
212 Broadway
Culbertson, MT 59218

RE: Finding of No-Significant Impact for Fort Kipp Project

Dear Clint:

Enclosed is a Finding of No-Significant Impact (FONSI) for the above referenced project. Please print a copy of the FONSI in your local paper and return a copy of the affidavit of publication to me. You do not need to print this letter. Our environmental review was based on a review of the plans and specifications for the above referenced project and on the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the entire Dry Prairie project.

Thank you, if you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Marc Golz, P.E.
Senior Engineer
DWSRF Program

C: Rick Duncan, DNRC
Stephanie Hellekson, USBR

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER AUTHORITY
FORT KIPP PIPELINE PROJECT**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: June 10, 2009
Action: Water System Improvements Project
Location of Project: Roosevelt County, Montana
DEQ Funding: \$0.
Total Project Cost: \$200,000.

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of drinking water transmission and distribution pipelines by the Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority (DPRWA) in Roosevelt County, Montana.

The proposed action involves construction within and outside of DEQ's authority. The portion of the project within DEQ's authority and addressed by this Finding is from the eastern most boundary of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation at Big Muddy Creek east to the Town of Culbertson. The proposed action within this portion consists of the installation of 25,100 feet of 4-inch diameter PVC pipe, 4,400 feet of 2-inch diameter PVC pipe, 1,250 feet of 1.5-inch diameter PVC pipe and 300 feet of service line restoration including 1 road crossing and 1 stream crossing. This construction is proposed in Roosevelt County Montana in Township 28 North, Range 55 East, Sections 22, 25, 26, 27, 28 and Township 28 North, Range 56 East, Section 30 east of Culbertson, Montana.

The affected environment will primarily be rural areas west of the Town of Culbertson in Roosevelt County to the eastern boundary of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. The human environment affected will include residents and visitors of Roosevelt County, Montana. Based on the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment, 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.

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 October 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); and 2) Contract Legal Documents, Specifications and Drawings for Fort Kipp Pipeline Project, dated March 2009, prepared by DeWild Grant Reckert and

Associates Company. These references are available for review upon request by contacting:

Marc Golz
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
Phone (406) 444-6770
Email: mgolz@mt.gov

Or:

Clint Jacobs
Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority
P.O. Box 577
212 Broadway
Culbertson, MT 59218
(406) 787-5382
Email: dprw@nemontel.net

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,

Todd Teegarden, Chief
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau

c: file