



NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA

WPCSRF #: C301238

December 2, 2009

CITY OF BILLINGS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DISINFECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above named project. A new Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) discharge permit (scheduled for renewal in April 2011) will most likely include new chlorine discharge limits, dechlorination, and stricter E. Coli limits. The City has determined that the existing disinfection system (chlorine) will not meet the new requirements and therefore an upgrade is necessary. The City proposes to retrofit one of the existing chlorine mixing chambers with an ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection system. In general the work will include removing a wall and chlorine feed equipment in the chamber to allow construction of new chamber walls, subfloor, upper floor and construct a building over the entire chamber. The building construction will include a bridge crane, work area, plumbing, and electrical equipment. A new emergency backup generator will be included in the project, and if bid prices are favorable, covers will be constructed over the final clarifier launders and weirs.

Pursuant to ARM 17.40.318, the Department has concluded that the proposed project meets the Categorical Exclusion criteria of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The Categorical Exclusion may be revoked if the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the Preliminary Engineering Report, a new or modified application is submitted, new evidence demonstrates serious local or environmental issues exist, or state, local, tribal, or federal laws are violated.

The documentation for the Categorical Exclusion is available for public review at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

City of Billings
Department of Public Works
2224 Montana Avenue
Billings, MT 59101

Sincerely,

Todd Teegarden, Bureau Chief
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau
Planning Prevention & Assistance Division
Montana Department of Environmental Quality