

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

February 3, 2010

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above-named project. The project consists of replacing existing water mains of various diameters along 10th Avenue South, in Great Falls Montana, from 20th Street to 26th Street in conjunction with a Montana Department of Transportation project that will resurface this section of roadway. The DEQ review, and this categorical exclusion, applies only to the water main replacement part of the project.

The water main replacement will occur in previously disturbed ground and in a commercial area where there exist several underground storage tanks including one that has had a documented leak. If contaminated soils are encountered during excavation the project specifications require that the contractor suspend work and contact the Hazardous Waste Section of the Montana Department of Transportation and also to report the contamination to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The specifications also detail how contaminated soil should be handled if encountered and specifies OSHA, EPA and DEQ regulations pertaining to worker safety and the excavation of contaminated soil. These requirements are routine for work within these types of urban, developed or commercial areas in the event that contamination might be encountered and in order to have proven methods and procedures in place.

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 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 Great Falls, Engineering
1025 25th Avenue Northeast
Great Falls, MT 59404

Sincerely,

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