

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER AUTHORITY
EAST MEDICINE LAKE RESERVOIR AND PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF
PACKAGE PUMP STATION**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: 05/09/2011
Action: Water System Improvements Project
Location of Project: Sheridan County, Montana
DEQ Funding: \$90,500.
Total Project Cost: \$797,500.

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of a water storage reservoir and pump station by the Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority (DPRWA) in Sheridan County.

The proposed action consists of the construction of a 200,000 gallon bolted steel storage reservoir in Township 34 North Range 56 E Section 24 approximately 6 miles east of Antelope, MT and the purchase and delivery of a package pump station to be installed later.

The affected environment in the project area is limited to an area bounded on the south by Twin Bridges Road beginning approximately 5.75 miles east of Antelope and on the east by the Tommy Jorgenson farmstead then 100-feet north then 150-feet west then 100-feet south then 150-feet east along Twin Bridges Road back to the point of origin. The human environment affected will include residents and visitors of Sheridan County in Montana. Based on the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment, including environmental commitments detailed in the EA, 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); (2) Contract Legal Documents, Specifications and Drawings dated April 2011 For East Medicine Lake Project; (3) Design Report for East Medicine Lake Project dated November 2010. References 2 and 3 were 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
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