



Brian Schweitzer, Governor
Richard H. Opper, Director

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NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
TOWN OF PLAINS, MONTANA
PLAINS WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

December 26, 2012

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above named project. The water system improvements project includes the replacement of approximately 1,200 feet of water main with 8-inch PVC pipe, replacement of approximately 600 water meters, replacement of approximately 2,000 feet of water service pipe and all associated service connections, fittings, valves and appurtenances. The project also includes the purchase of a remote meter reading system and the resurfacing of all disturbed roadways. The proposed project will include a new crossing under the existing railroad tracks. This looping portion of the project work will consist of boring under the existing tracks, installing a 50 foot carrier pipe and installing approximately 400 feet of new 8-inch PVC water main to connect the existing water mains located on either side of the railroad tracks.

The proposed water main replacement work will occur at the following locations:

- Ryan Road - between Clayton Street and Garber Street
- MT Highway 200 - between Rittenour Street and Central Avenue. This work will occur outside of the traveled way with the new pipe being installed approximately ten feet from the fog line.
- Hubbard Street - between McGowan Street and HWY 200

Additional water meters and service line work will occur along:

- Clayton Street
- McGowan Street
- Boyer Street
- Alley between Hubbard and Boyer

The Proposed railroad crossing will connect the dead-end water main at the south end of Lynch Street to the dead-end water main located east of the tracks that currently service businesses and residences located at the south end of town between Montana Hwy 200 and the railroad tracks. The Town of Plains has applied for the permit for this crossing and the railroad has issued an agreement for the new crossing (the town is currently reviewing the agreement and expects to sign the document in January 2013).

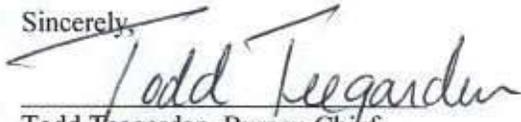
Pursuant to ARM 17.40.318, the Department has concluded that the proposed project meets the Categorical Exclusion criteria of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The Categorical Exclusion may be revoked if the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the planning documents, 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

Plains Town Hall
101 West Lynch Street
Plains, MT 59869

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Teegarden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

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

RITTENOUR
SHEET 4

SHEET 3

MCGOWAN SERVICES
SHEET 8

HUBBARD/MCGOWAN
SHEET 5

SOUTH SERVICES
SHEET 9

RAILROAD BOPE

