

May 29, 2012

Alan Woodmansey, Operations Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
585 Shepard Way  
Helena, MT 59601

Subject: **Categorical Exclusion Group (d) Action Letter**

Reference: Federal-aid Project Number: NA  
Federal-aid Project Name: HORSE BARN PRESERV - LEWISTOWN  
MDT Uniform Project Number: 7874

This is a request for FHWA concurrence that the proposed project meets the criteria for classification as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of 23 *CFR* 771.117(d). This proposed action also qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of *ARM* 18.2.261 (*MCA* Sections 75-1-103 and 75-1-201). A project location map is attached.

This proposed project is a historical restoration of a 1912 draft horse barn.

The location of the proposed project is the north entrance to the Central Montana Fairgrounds in Lewiston, MT.

The intent of the proposed project is to construct and install ten historically accurate windows.

The proposed project has been evaluated for, and does not have any adverse effect on the following environmental areas of concern:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Runoff               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime and Unique Farmlands      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 404 – <i>Clean Water Act</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplains (EO 11988/FEMA)     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Economic                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stream Preservation/Water Quality    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical/Cultural Resources              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened/Endangered Species        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Changes in Land Use             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands (EO 11990)                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USDOT – 4(f)/NL&WCF – 6(f) Acts |  |

### PROJECT IMPACTS

The proposed project will have a minor effect on the following environmental area(s):

**Historic/Cultural Resources** – The Draft Horse Barn has been found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in April, 2012. A Section 106 Determination of Effect has

resulted in a finding of "No Adverse Effect," which has been reviewed and concurred with by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on May 23, 2012. A copy of their concurrence letter is attached.

**Section 4(f)** – It has been determined that Section 4(f) does not apply to restoration, rehabilitation or maintenance of historic facilities when there is a "No Adverse Effect" determination, and when SHPO and the advisory council have been consulted and have not objected to this finding.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

**Public Involvement** – The City of Lewistown conducted a public hearing for the project on June 20, 2011. The meeting was advertised on June 4, 2011 and June 8, 2011. The volunteer committee to Save the Barn meets weekly with meetings noticed in the newspaper.

## CONCLUSION

The project will not induce significant land use changes or promote unplanned growth. There will be no significant affects on access to adjacent properties or present traffic patterns. The project will not create disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations (EO 12898) and complies with Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d)*. In accordance with 23 *CFR 771.117(a)*, this action will neither individually nor cumulatively, have any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, we are requesting FHWA's concurrence that the proposed project is properly classified as Categorical Exclusion.

"ALTERNATIVE ACCESSIBLE FORMATS OF THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PROVIDED ON REQUEST"



Duane Ferdinand, Project Environmental Certifying Official

Concur:



Heidi Bruner – Environmental Engineering Section Supervisor

Date

4/4/12

Concur:



Alan Woodmansey - Federal Highway Administration

Date

6 June 2012

Attachment: Project Location Map

cc: Stefan Streeter, MDT, District Administrator – Billings District  
Tim Conway, MDT, Consultant Design Engineer  
Tom Martin, MDT, Bureau Chief – Environmental Services Bureau  
Nicole Pallister, MDT, Fiscal Planning Administrator  
Mike Wherley, MDT, CTEP Section Supervisor  
Maureen Theisen, Legislature, EQC  
Heidy Bruner, MDT, Section Supervisor – Environmental Engineering Section  
Tom Gocksch, MDT, Environmental Engineering Section – Butte District  
Tom Erving, MDT, Fiscal Planning  
Duane Ferdinand, City of Lewistown, CTEP Administrator