



"Healthy environment, healthy people"

Steve Bullock, Governor
Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

June 26, 2013 P. O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • Website: www.deq.mt.gov

Honorable Scott DeRudder
Town of Bridger
108 South D Street
Bridger, MT 59014

RE: Town of Bridger Wastewater Disinfection System Improvements
WPCSRF Program #: C301249

Mayor DeRudder:

An environmental review of the above referenced project has been completed by the Water Pollution Control SRF Program. Based on this review, it has been determined that the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion from further environmental review. A copy of the Notice of Publication of Categorical Exclusion (Notice) for this project is enclosed. Please print the Notice in at least one publication of your local newspaper, under legal advertising, and return a copy of the proof of advertisement to this office. Please have the Notice, the September 2012 Disinfection Study prepared by Great West Engineers, and the project contract documents available for public review at your office. We have distributed the notice to the enclosed list of agencies. If you have any questions regarding this process or the project in general, you can call me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Jerry Paddock, P.E.
Environmental Engineer
Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund
Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau
Phone: (406) 444-5323 Fax: (406) 444-6836

Encl

Cc: Chad Hanson, PE, Great West Engineering - Billings

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
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▲ CORE LIST

▼ OPTIONAL LIST

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DIRECTOR
MT FIELD OFFICE - HUD
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ENVIR PROJECT REV
US DEPT OF INTERIOR
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WASHINGTON DC 20240

MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS UNIT
8P-W-MS
US EPA REGION VIII
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DENVER CO 80202-1129

ENVIR REVIEW OFFICER
US DEPT OF INTERIOR
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER
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DENVER CO 80225-0007

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NANCY EDWARDS
UTILITY AGENT
PO BOX 7039
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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
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GOVT ASST DIV
DEPT OF COMMERCE
PO BOX 200523
HELENA MT 59620-0523

GALLATIN AIRPORT AUTHORITY
GALLATIN FIELD AIRPORT
BELGRADE MT 59714

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Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Steve Bullock, Governor
Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

P. O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • Website: www.deq.mt.gov

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
TOWN OF BRIDGER, MONTANA
SRF #: C301249

TOWN OF BRIDGER WASTEWATER DISINFECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

June 26, 2013

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above named project. The purpose of this project is to install a ultra-violet light (UV) disinfection system in the effluent from town of Bridger's wastewater lagoons. The proposed UV system will be placed in a small steel sided building which will be located near the existing effluent outfall pipe. This location will allow the effluent to be routed through the building and UV system prior to discharging to the river. The existing outfall ditch to the river will be modified to incorporate the new piping. The town's new discharge permit includes a more stringent *E.coli* limit which will require a chemical or physical method to disinfect the water before discharging to avoid permit violations. The new discharge limits become effective November 1, 2014 and the town is proposing to install a UV disinfection system to meet the new limits. The facility does not currently disinfect the wastewater before discharging to the Clarks Fork Yellowstone River. The work will be completed late in 2013 or early in 2014.

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

Town of Bridger
108 South D Street
Bridger, MT 59014

Sincerely,

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

DOCUMENTATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION CHECKLIST

Project Name / Brief Description: TOWN OF BRIDGER WASTEWATER DISINFECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. The town's new MPDES discharge permit sets more stringent E. Coli limits which will be effective November 1, 2014. To meet the new discharge permit limits this project will install a ultra-violet light disinfection system at the wastewater treatment facility to disinfect the wastewater prior to discharging to the Clarks Forks Yellowstone River.

Project Number : C301249

Date: June 25, 2013

Preparer: Jerry Paddock

The Department action under Title 75, chapter 5, part 11 and or chapter 6, part 1 or 2, MCA, is excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) if the application for department review is for any of the following projects:

(a) Projects relating to existing infrastructure systems such as sewer systems, drinking water supply systems, and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems that involve:

[Answer yes or no. If all answers "no", an EA or EIS must be completed. If any answer is yes, skip to (b).]

- 1. minor upgrading;
- 2. minor expansion of system capacity;
- 3. rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components;
- YES 4. construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities; or
- 5. projects in unsewered communities involving the replacement of existing on-site systems, provided that the new on-site systems do not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharges or in loadings of pollutants from existing sources, and do not relocate existing discharges.

(b) A categorical exclusion may NOT be granted for a department action if:

[Answer yes or no. If all answers "no", skip to (c). If any answer is yes, an EA or EIS must be completed.]

- NO 6. the action would authorize facilities that will provide a new discharge or relocate an existing discharge to ground or surface waters;
- NO 7. the action would result in an increase above permit levels established for the facility under the Montana pollutant discharge elimination system or Montana ground water pollution control system for either volume of discharge or loading rate of pollutants to receiving waters;
- NO 8. the action would authorize facilities that will provide capacity to serve a population at least 30% greater than the existing population;
- NO 9. the action is not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy;
- NO 10. the action directly or indirectly involves or relates to upgrading or extending

infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development;

NO 11. the department has received information indicating that public controversy exists over the project's potential effects on the quality of the human environment;

NO 12. the department determines that the proposed project that is the subject of the state action shows some potential for causing a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, based on ARM 17.4.608, or might possibly affect:

- (i) sensitive environmental or cultural resource areas; or
- (ii) endangered or threatened species and their critical habitats.

(c) If the proposed project meets the conditions above in determining use of a CATEX, the reviewer will then complete items 13 - 17 as follows:

[Once all steps 1- 17 are complete, reviewer shall sign and date at bottom. If revocation becomes necessary, reviewer shall initiate an EA or EIS as appropriate.]

YES 13. Project meets the above Categorical Exclusion criteria.

YES 14. DEQ determination of Categorical Exclusion.

_____ 15. DEQ distributes the Notice of Determination.

_____ 16. Notice of Publication and cover letter (containing revocation language below) is delivered to recipient.

_____ 17. Notice of Publication published in local newspaper by recipient and evidence of publication provided to reviewer.

(d) The department may revoke a categorical exclusion if:

[Only complete the steps below 18 - 21 if revocation of a previously implemented CATEX becomes necessary.]

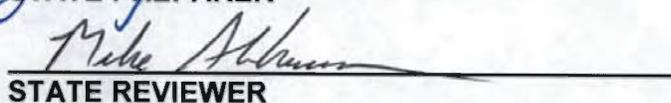
_____ 18. the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the facility plan, or a new or modified application is submitted;

_____ 19. the proposed action no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion because of changes in the proposed action;

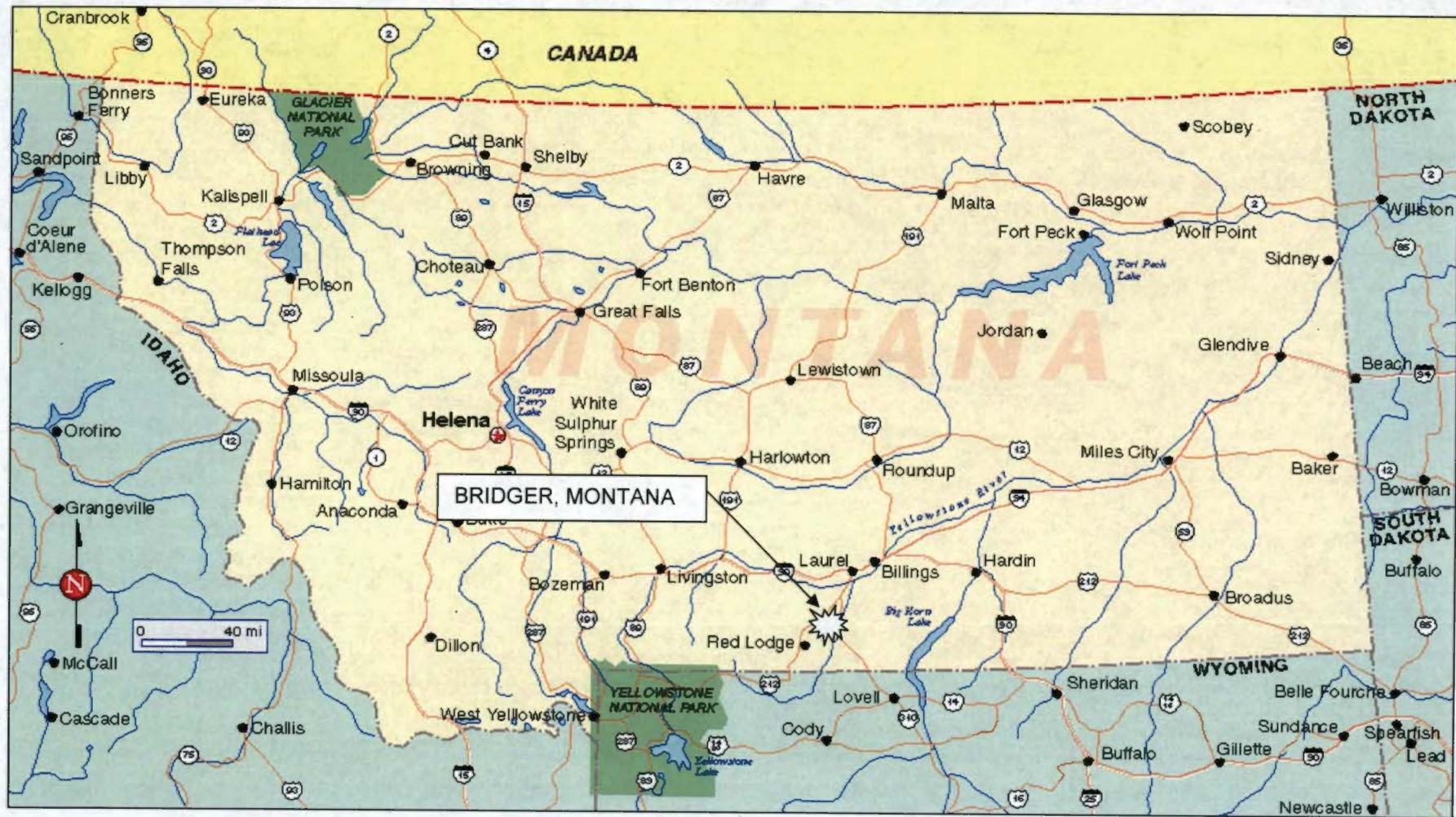
_____ 20. new evidence demonstrates that serious local or environmental issues exist; or

_____ 21. state, local, tribal, or federal laws may be violated.


STATE PREPARER


STATE REVIEWER

JUNE 26, 2013
COMPLETION DATE





BRIDGER, MONTANA