



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

September 5, 2013

Josh Acker, Mayor
Town of Alberton
607 Railroad Avenue
Alberton, MT 59820

RE: WPCSRF #: C304223 - Alberton Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements Project

Dear Mayor Acker:

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 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 Categorical Exclusion notice, Preliminary Engineering Report and contract documents available for public review at your office or public place of convenience. We have distributed the notice to the enclosed list of agencies. The FONSI and EA will be placed on our website for public review at <http://www.deq.mt.gov/ea.asp>. If you have any questions regarding this process or the project in general, you can call me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Terry Campbell, P.E.
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau
(406) 444-7343

Encl

cc: Steve Wonacott, PE, MM Engineering (email)
Anna Miller, DNRC



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NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
TOWN OF ALBERTON, MONTANA
WPCSRF #: C304223

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

September 5, 2013

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above named project. The project consists of plans to install pond covers, baffles to control circulation, aeration equipment upgrades and Ultra Violet (UV) disinfection equipment at the Alberton wastewater treatment lagoon site. Also, improvements to the alarm system and standby power at two lift stations that pump sewage to the lagoons are proposed.

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

Alberton, Town of
607 Railroad Avenue
Alberton, MT 59820

Sincerely,

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

CHAPTER III – ATTACHMENT D

DOCUMENTATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION CHECKLIST

Project Name / Brief Description: Alberton WW Improvements Project
(pond covers, baffle, VFD's on blowers, UV disinfection & pump controls)
Project Number: C304223
Date: 9/4/13
Preparer: Terry Campbell

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).]

- yes 1. minor upgrading;
- no 2. minor expansion of system capacity;
- yes 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
- no 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.

yes 15. DEQ distributes the Notice of Determination.

yes 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

Terry Campbell
Terry Campbell

COMPLETION DATE

9/4/13

TOWN OF ALBERTON
MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

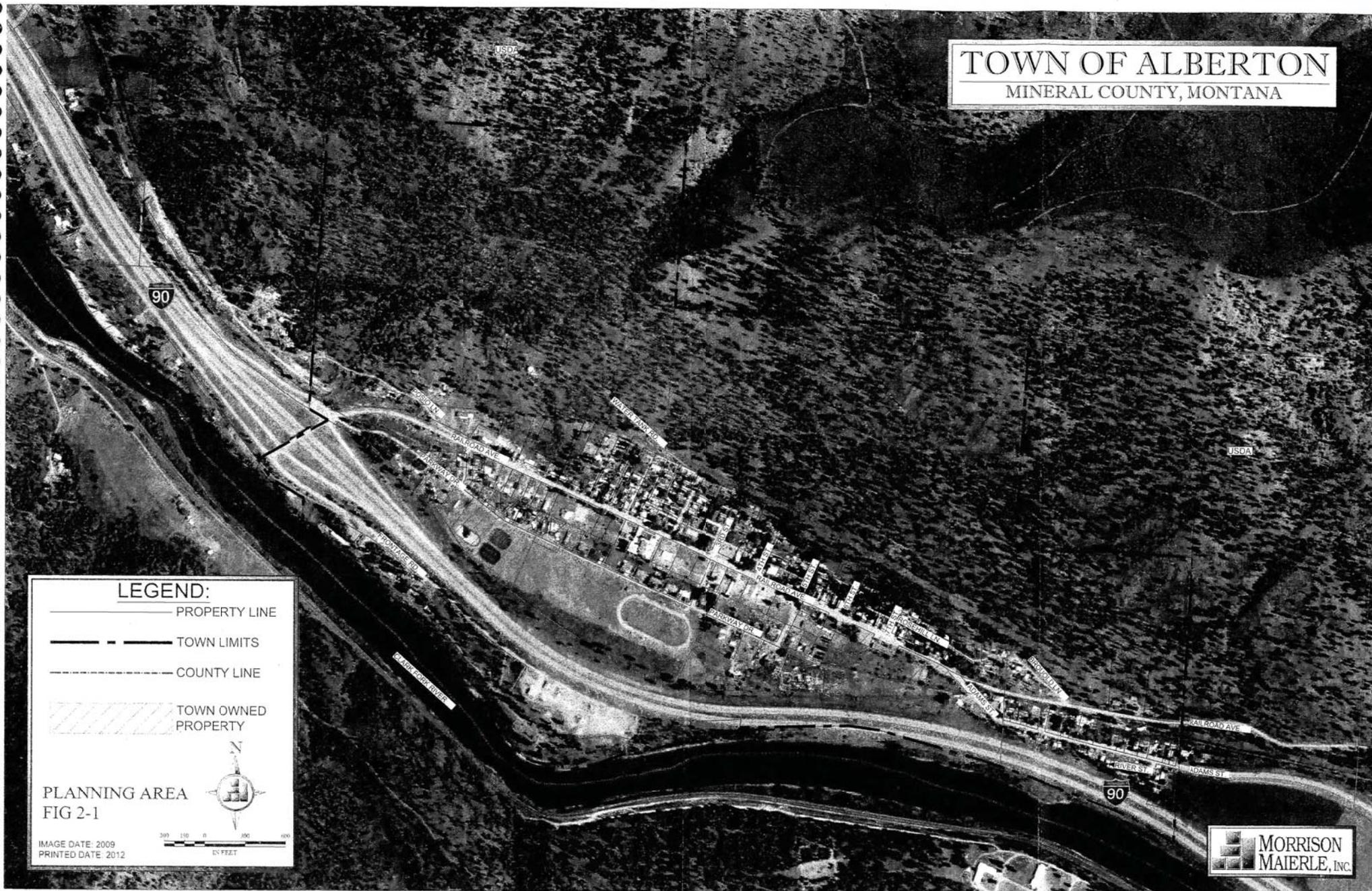
LEGEND:

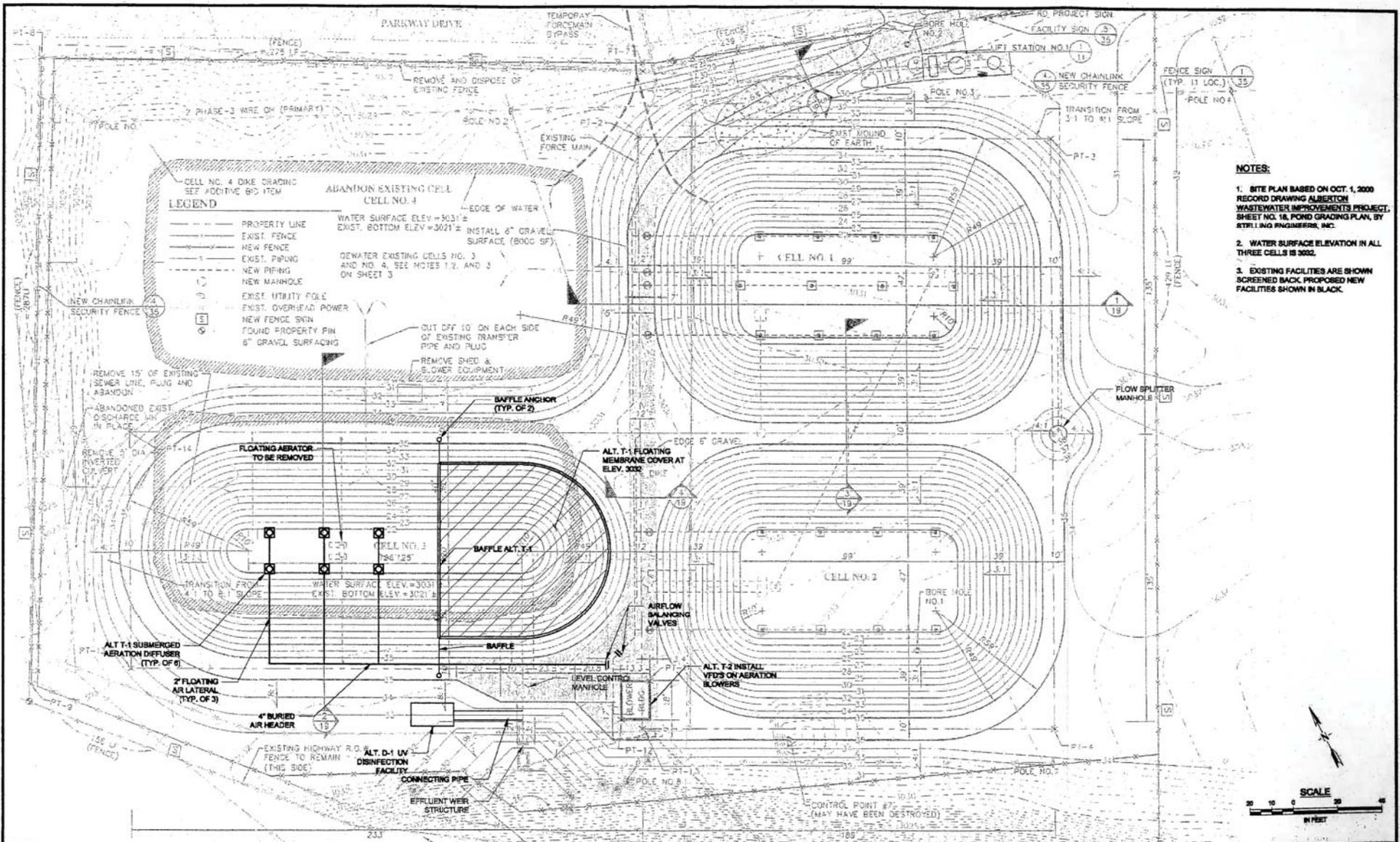
- PROPERTY LINE
- - - TOWN LIMITS
- - - COUNTY LINE
- ▨ TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

PLANNING AREA
FIG 2-1

IMAGE DATE: 2009
PRINTED DATE: 2012

0 100 200
FEET





- NOTES:**
1. SITE PLAN BASED ON OCT. 1, 2000 RECORD DRAWING ALBERTON WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, SHEET NO. 18, POND GRADING PLAN, BY STRILLING ENGINEERS, INC.
 2. WATER SURFACE ELEVATION IN ALL THREE CELLS IS 3032.
 3. EXISTING FACILITIES ARE SHOWN SCREENED BACK, PROPOSED NEW FACILITIES SHOWN IN BLACK.



VERIFY SCALE		REVISIONS	
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY

MORRISON MAIERLE, Inc.
An Employee-Owned Company

Engineers
 Surveyors
 Sanitary
 Planners

3011 Palmar Dr.
 Missoula, MT 59802
 Phone: (406) 543-8900
 Fax: (406) 543-8901

DRAWN BY: MCM
 DESGN. BY: MCM
 APPR. BY: BSW
 DATE: 3/20/12
 G.C. REVIEW BY:
 DATE:

ALBERTON
 ALBERTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
 PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT
 MONTANA
 PROPOSED WWTF IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT NUMBER: 4581-002
 SHEET NUMBER: 1
 DRAWING NUMBER:
FIG 9-1

VERIFY SCALE: THESE PRINTS MAY BE REDUCED. LINE WEIGHTS MEASURED ONE INCH ON ORIGINAL DRAWING.
 MOUNTAIN SCALE ACCORDINGLY.
 MORRISON MAIERLE AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS, SANITARY PLANNERS
 PLOTTED BY: MLLANCA, PAVEL, ON 3/27/12