

HELENA

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Helena, MT 59604
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March 19, 2013

Montana Environmental Quality Council
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

**RE: TOWN OF ST. IGNATIUS
ST. IGNATIUS WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
Contract # MT-CDBG-11PF-10**

On behalf of the Town of St. Ignatius, enclosed please find the following document:

COMBINED NOTICE (FONSI/NOI/RROF)

Should you have any questions, please contact the project's Environmental Certifying Officer, Mayor Charles Gariepy at (406) 745-3791. Written comments should be sent to P.O. Box 103, St. Ignatius, MT 59865-0103.

Sincerely,

Great West Engineering, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig Erickson", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Craig Erickson
Grants Manager

Enclosure (1)

Cc: Town of St. Ignatius
Grant file

BILLINGS
115 N Broadway
Suite 500
Billings, MT 59101
406.652.5000
Fax 406.248.1363

**TOWN OF ST. IGNATIUS
COMBINED NOTICE: FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT and NOTICE TO PUBLIC
OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS (FONSI/NOI/RROF)**

Publication Date: March 6, 2013

Town of St. Ignatius
Town

12 First Avenue, P.O. Box 103
Mailing Address

St. Ignatius, MT 59865-0103
City, State, Zip Code

(406) 745-3791
Telephone

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or before March 25, 2013 the above-named Town will request the Montana Department of Commerce (DOC) to release Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds provided under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (PL 93-383) for the following project:

St. Ignatius Water System Improvements
CDBG Project Title or Name

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to provide an adequate water supply and resolved deficiencies in the Town's water distribution system.

St. Ignatius' water supply system consists of two groundwater wells. The well supply does not have adequate capacity to meet current needs in accordance with Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirements. The DEQ requirement for water supplies is that the supply must be capable of providing the maximum day demand with the largest supply well out of service. The St. Ignatius water supply can provide 205 gpm with the largest well out of service. The current maximum day demand is 270 gpm while the design period maximum day demand is 352 gpm. The Town needs to provide an additional supply with a minimum capacity of 65 gpm to meet the current needs and a minimum capacity of 147 gpm to meet the projected demands of the system over the 20-year planning period.

The Town's water distribution system has several areas where improvements are needed. An undersized water main prevents the Town from providing the recommended fire flows on Mountain View Drive. This commercial area is critical to the economic well being of the community because of the jobs the businesses provide in the community. The distribution system also provides only a single crossing of Mission Creek. A second crossing is necessary because both of the existing wells are on the south side of the creek and the storage is on the north side of the creek. A failure of the single crossing would result in isolating the system in two parts, one without supply, and the other without storage.

The recommended alternative from the PER includes the following improvements:

- Install new well and pump house, emergency generator, and connect to distribution system
- Distribution system improvements to include second water main crossing on Mission Creek, new water main on Mountain View Drive
- Replace a four-inch main on Home Addition

Town of St. Ignatius, 12 First Avenue, St. Ignatius, MT 59865-0103
Location of CDBG Project

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the above named Town has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190).

The reasons for the decision not to prepare such Statement are as follows (*Set forth reasons for decision.*):

The affected environment will be the area within the Town of St. Ignatius and the immediate vicinity. The human environment affected will include the public water system and the 788 residents of the community. Based on the environmental assessment, 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. No significant negative long-term environmental impacts were identified.

An Environmental Review Record documenting review of all project activities in respect to impacts on the environment has been made by the above-named Town. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of CDBG project funds.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of St. Ignatius to the office of the undersigned on or before March 21, 2013. All such comments so received will be considered and the Town will not request release of funds or take any administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Release of Funds

The Town will undertake the project described above with CDBG funds provided by DOC under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. St. Ignatius is certifying to DOC that St. Ignatius and Charles Gariepy, in his official capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to

environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect on the certification is that upon its approval, the Town of St. Ignatius may use the CDBG funds and DOC will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Objections to State Release of Funds

The Department of Commerce will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases:

- (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer approved by the Department of Commerce;
- (b) that the applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process;
- (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DOC; or
- (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental design.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: Department of Commerce, Community Development Division, 301 S. Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200523, Helena, Montana 59620.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by DOC. No objection received after April 9, 2013 will be considered by DOC.

Name of Environmental Certifying
Officer or Chief Elected Official

Date

12 First Avenue, P.O. Box 103
Street Address

St. Ignatius, MT 59865-0103
City, County, State, Zip Code