

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PLANNING, PREVENTION AND ASSISTANCE DIVISION



MARC RACICOT, GOVERNOR

LEE METCALF BUILDING  
1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-6697  
fax (406) 444-6836

PO BOX 200901  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0901

November 5, 1998

Dear Sirs:

We have completed the environmental review of the 1998 Facility Plan for the Alberton Wastewater Improvements. Enclosed for your information is the Categorical Exclusion Determination.

If any questions arise, please contact this office.

RECEIVED

NOV 09 1998

ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

November 5, 1998

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the proposed Alberton Wastewater Improvements project. The project involves constructing a true three-cell aerated lagoon system complete with liner. Two new cells would be constructed immediately east of the existing cells. One of the existing cells would be rehabilitated while the other existing cell would be restored to grass and set aside for future system expansion. The existing central lift station and wetwell would be replaced with a new lift station at the treatment pond site, complete with standby generator system and security fence. A new collection line would connect the existing wetwell in Railroad Avenue to the new lift station at the treatment site. The existing satellite station at the east end of town would be rehabilitated or replaced. The existing collection lines would be cleaned and the lines along Railroad Avenue would be televised for possible inflow of clear water with line repairs completed as required. The proposed action meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion under ARM 16.18.311 because: 1) the action includes minor upgrading or replacement of existing facilities, and 2) the action is for a community of less than 10,000 persons involving minor upgrading or minor expansion of existing treatment works and does not change existing unit processes and does not directly or indirectly involve the extension of new collection systems. It is the Department's judgement that the proposed project may be granted a Categorical Exclusion because:

1. The facilities will create no new discharges or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters.
2. The facilities will not result in an increase above permit levels established under the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System or Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System for either volume of discharge or loading of pollutants to receiving waters.
3. The design population for the system improvements is less than 30% greater than the existing population.
4. The action is not expected to have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment nor is the action expected to affect sensitive environmental resource areas.
5. No information has been received by the Department indicating that a public controversy exists over the project's potential to effect the quality of the human environment.

Therefore, pursuant to ARM 16.18.311, a Categorical Exclusion for the above referenced project is granted.

This documentation will be available for public scrutiny upon request at the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Planning, Prevention and Assistance Division in Helena, Montana.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality, Planning, Prevention and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Livers, Bureau Chief  
Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau