



**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
SEGMENT W3 (SHELBY TO CUT BANK) PIPELINE PROJECT**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: January 29, 2015
Action: Water System Improvements Project
Location of Project: Glacier and Toole Counties, Montana
DEQ Funding: \$ 660,000
Total Project Cost: \$ 14.9 Million

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of drinking water facilities, including transmission pipelines, a pump station and a standpipe (storage tank), in Glacier and Toole Counties of Montana. The purpose of the project is to bring safe drinking water from the city of Shelby to the City of Cut Bank. The project is part of the North Central Montana Regional Water System. The North Central Montana Regional Water Authority will buy water from Shelby and convey and sell it to Cut Bank.

The proposed action consists of the construction of a transmission pipeline including approximately 20.5 miles of 16-inch PVC pipeline; 3.8 miles of 18-inch PVC pipeline; a booster pump station, and a 105,000 gallon storage tank.

The affected environment will primarily be a corridor beginning at the City of Shelby near the water tank at the northwest edge of town and going west and north to Cut Bank. A project map will be available on the DEQ website and is available by contacting the persons listed below.

The DEQ utilized the following references in completing its environmental review of this project: 1) the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System, dated December 2004 (the lead agency for the EA was the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, also, cooperating agencies in preparation of the EA were: the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation); 2) a Preliminary Engineering Report for the Value Engineering Review for Segment W3 Shelby to Cut Bank dated October 2012, prepared by Kadrmas Lee & Jackson (KLJ) and Advanced Engineering and Environmental Solutions (AE2S); 3) a Class III Cultural Resources Inventory Report prepared by KLJ, dated September 2014; 4) a Preliminary Environmental Review Report for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water Project

for Segment W3:Shelby/Cut Bank Water Pipeline , prepared by KLJ, dated July 2012; 5) a Wetland Delineation Report, prepared by KLJ, dated July 2014; 5) a Limited SubSurface Soil Investigation Report for the Tank Hill CECRA Facility at Cut Bank Montana, prepared by AJM Incorporated, August 26, 2014; 6) a Potential Contaminant Source Review for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water Project Shelby to Cut Bank, prepared by DEQ Source Water Protection section, dated May 15, 2014. 7) Preliminary Drawings for Segment W3 Shelby to Cut Bank, prepared by KLJ and AE2S, received January 22, 2015. These references are available for review upon request by contacting:

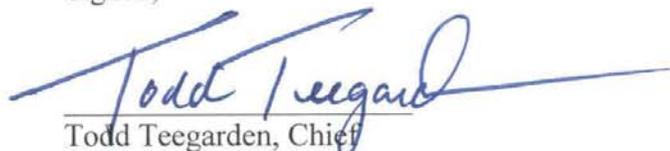
Marc Golz
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
Phone (406) 444-6770
Email: mgolz@mt.gov

Or:

Larry Bonderud
North Central Montana Regional Water Authority
P.O. Box 2456
Havre, MT 59501
Phone: (406) 450-5196

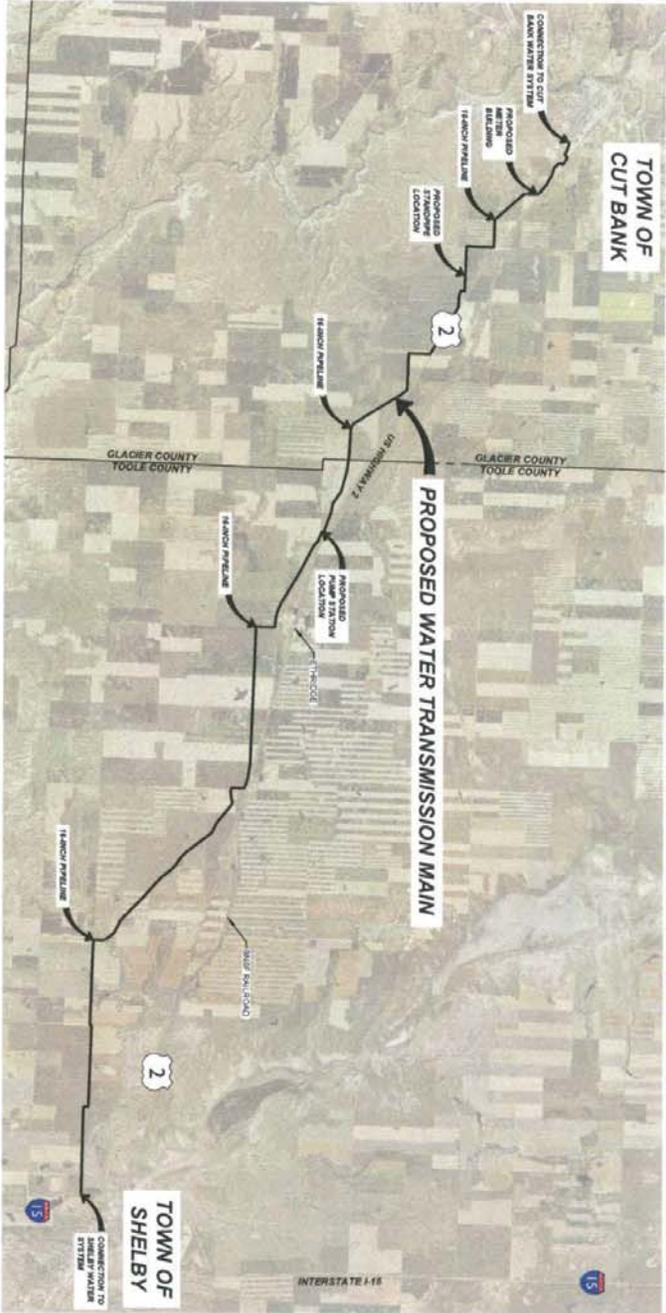
Comments on this finding or on the EA may be submitted to DEQ at the above address. Comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this FONSI in the newspaper. After evaluating substantive comments received, DEQ will revise the EA or determine if an EIS is necessary. Otherwise, this finding of no significant impact will stand if no substantive comments are received during the comment period or if substantive comments are received and evaluated and the environmental impacts are still determined to be non-significant.

Signed,

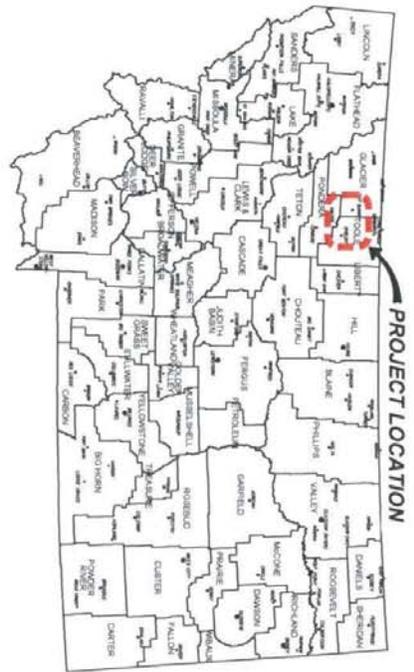


Todd Teegarden, Chief
Technical & Financial Assistance Bureau
c: file

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2 PROJECT MAP
 GS NOT TO SCALE



1 LOCATION MAP
 GS NOT TO SCALE

GEN-G3

DATE: 11/10/14
 DRAWN BY: PWE/MLM/AVP
 CHECKED BY: PWE/MLM/AVP
 DATE: NOV 10 2014
 PROJECT: W3

SEGMENT W3: SHELBY TO CUT BANK
 NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
 LOCATION AND VICINITY MAP

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DATE	REVISION	APPROVED