

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Force Main Replacement  
City of Arthur (Cass County), North Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380972-02

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Force Main Replacement for the City of Arthur in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of replacing the existing sanitary sewer force main and wastewater pond inlet structure. The force main is primarily composed of asbestos cement pipe and has reached the end of its useful life. The wastewater pond inlet structure does not meet the current Ten States Recommended Standards for Wastewater Facilities.

The proposed project will replace the existing sewer force main with modern materials and bring the wastewater pond inlet structure up to current design standards. The improvements will significantly extend the lifespan of the system and reduce risks to public health and the environment.

The City of Arthur has applied for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$465,000 to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely on previously disturbed land. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concluded that no historic properties will be affected by this project provided it takes place as described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 24-0272). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Arthur and Cass County.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Ryan Allery, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024

David J. Bruschwein, P.E.  
Director  
Division of Municipal Facilities