

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Sanitary Sewer Collection System
Rehabilitation
Carpio (Ward County), North Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380875-01

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Sanitary Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation project for the City of Carpio 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 improvements to the sanitary sewer collection system for the City of Carpio. The existing system was installed in 1959, and it is unknown if there have been any significant upgrades since the original construction. The system consists primarily of vitrified clay pipe that has reached the end of its useful life and is showing signs of failure. These failures are allowing infiltration of ground water and sediment into the system, which may lead to blockages, sewage backups, and sink holes. Furthermore, excessive infiltration may result in premature failure of the lift station pumps and increased costs to pump and treat the city's wastewater. Failure to correct these issues will result in continued risk to the surrounding environment and public health.

The proposed project will rehabilitate the sanitary sewer collection system using trenchless methods, such as cured-in-place pipe, and open cut excavation to repair sanitary sewer mains and manholes. These improvements will reduce the issues associated with ground water and sediment infiltration into the system and ensure the consistent and safe conveyance of the city's wastewater.

The City of Carpio has applied for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan to finance this \$1,282,000 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 within the alignment of existing streets and right-of-ways owned by the city. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with a determination of “No Historic Properties Affected” for the project provided it takes place in the manner and location described in the documentation and all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 24-0355). 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 Carpio and Ward 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 Evan Wahl, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy St., Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 6th day of March, 2025.

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