

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Colfax (Richland County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 3900196-01

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Water Main Looping project for the City of Colfax 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 installing a watermain loop along the west edge of the city as well as the replacement of a 2-inch watermain section.

The proposed project will provide improved efficiency of the existing system. The watermain loop will provide redundancy for the residents of Colfax, allowing water service to continue in the event of a watermain break. Replacing the stretch of 2-inch watermain with appropriately sized pipe will further the efficiency of the system.

The City of Colfax has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$245,000 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 in the alignment of existing right-of-ways. 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 in the manner and location described in the documentation and all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 21-6056). 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 Colfax and Richland County.

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

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

Dated the 31st day of October 2024.

Sincerely,

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