

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Grand Forks (Grand Forks County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 1800410-04

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Grand Forks Lead Service Line Replacement Project for the City of Grand Forks 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.

Portions of the City of Grand Forks were constructed many years ago during a time when lead service lines were an option for residences and health effects were unknown. Lead can leach into drinking water, creating a human health risk. The proposed project consists of replacing lead service lines for residences. The project area will consist of the older neighborhoods primarily in the northeast portion of the city.

The City of Grand Forks has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$375,000 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 previously disturbed areas. 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 location and manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source. (ND SHPO Ref.: 22-6152). 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 the City of Grand Forks and Grand Forks 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 James Uhlman, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 7th day of November, 2022.

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