

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Hebron (Morton County), North Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380869-03

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed water meter replacement for the City of Hebron 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 existing water meters throughout the city have reached the end of their useful life with approximately one third of the meters being inoperable. This has led to inefficient and costly data collection. In addition, the old manual read meters have prevented the city from detecting water main breaks early, which results in revenue loss for the city, and the possibility of property damage and public health concerns for its citizens.

The proposed project will involve a city-wide replacement of the old water meters. New remote read meters will allow the city to more effectively collect water usage data and detect water main breaks. This improvement will result in significant cost savings for the City of Hebron and improved monitoring of the city's vital water infrastructure.

The City of Hebron has applied for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$120,000 to fund 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 within private and public structures both residential and commercial. 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 (ND SHPO Ref.: 21-6085). 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 Hebron and Morton 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 Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

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