

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Drinking Water System Improvements
Horace (Cass County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 0900488-02

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed drinking water distribution system improvements project for the City of Horace 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 drinking water distribution system including water main, gate valve, service line, and fire hydrant replacement. This project will also provide pipe looping in the southern part of the city. A significant portion of the city's drinking water distribution system was installed from 1966 to 1988 and is experiencing issues with leaking, deformation, and mineral buildup within the pipe. These problems increase the adverse risk to public health. The project will replace failing infrastructure and improve the integrity of the City of Horace drinking water distribution system.

The City of Horace plans to apply for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan 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 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.: 21-5342) provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source. 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 Horace 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.

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Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Bryan R. Schmitt,
Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of
Environmental Quality, 918 East Divide Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bismarck, ND, 58501-1947.

Dated the 1st day of July, 2021.

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