

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Richardton (Stark County), North Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380911-01

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed West Lift Station Replacement project for the City of Richardton 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. The 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 reconstructing the West Lift Station. The original lift station was constructed in the mid-1990s and has had multiple repairs over its useful life. There are signs of inflow and infiltration, and significant corrosion is occurring on internal equipment and piping. The age, condition, and location have resulted in increased operation and maintenance costs for the facility, and an increased risk of equipment and structure failure. Failure of the lift station may result in damage to surrounding property and pose a risk to public health.

The proposed project will reconstruct the West Lift Station with all new equipment and structures in an adjacent city-owned lot. These improvements will reduce operation and maintenance costs for the city and ensure the consistent and safe conveyance of wastewater for the City of Richardton.

The City of Richardton plans to apply for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$350,000 to help finance the estimated \$584,000 project.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely within city-owned property and 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 location and in the manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 23-5583). 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 Richardton and Stark 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, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 15th day of August, 2023.

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