

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As required by guidelines for the preparation of environmental impact statements, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed action below:

Project: 2026 System Improvements

Customer: Cass Rural Water District

Location: Cass County, North Dakota

DWSRF Project No.: 0901060-09

Total Cost: \$3,101,193

This project is for the installation of rural water pipe in Cass County. The proposed improvements are needed to address low pressure concerns experienced by rural water users during peak flow periods. Completion of this project will assist Cass Rural Water District in providing safe drinking water to residents.

Cass Rural Water District has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$1.5 million to finance a portion of the project. The rural water district has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project will primarily disturb agricultural and urban land during installation of rural water pipe. For a further discussion of this, see Item V, Environmental Impacts of Proposed Project in the Environmental Assessment document. Wetlands, area flood plains, threatened or endangered species habitats, or archeological sites will not be adversely impacted. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office concurs with a determination of "No Adverse Effect" for this project provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation (ND SHPO Ref.: 26-0113). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed this project (ID No. NWO-2022-00149-BIS) and determined that a Section 404 permit might be required.

The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement has been made. This action is taken on the basis of a careful review of the engineering report, environmental information document, and other

supporting data that are on file in the Municipal Facilities Division of the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.

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

After evaluating the comments received, the agency will make a final decision; however, no administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Dated July 14, 2026.

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