

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: Southeast Water User District (SEWUD) System-Wide Expansion Project
Kulm Area Booster Station and SEWUD-West Raw Water Supply Pipeline

Location: LaMoure and Dickey Counties, North Dakota

DWSRF Project No.: 3901068-11

Total Cost: \$1,043,150

The proposed project is for the construction of a booster station near Kulm, ND and new raw water well supply line from the SEWUD-West wellfield to the water treatment plant. This project will be incorporated into the overall System-Wide Expansion project that began construction in 2017. SEWUD-West has experienced increased water demand from rural water consumers and bulk users for the agricultural and livestock industries. Increased water demand has put a strain on the existing raw water well pipeline leading to reduced raw water quality. This project will address these issues by assuring that a high-quality water supply can be maintained in the SEWUD-West system.

SEWUD has a \$5,960,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a \$14,575,000 grant through the MR&I Water Supply Program to finance the entire System-Wide Expansion project. The rural water district has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

The project site for the booster station and raw water supply pipeline will disturb approximately 35 acres of agricultural land. For a further discussion of this see Item V, Environmental Impacts of Proposed Project in the Environmental Assessment document. Wetlands, area flood plains and threatened or endangered species habitat will not be adversely impacted. The State Historical Society of North Dakota, letter reference number 19-0274, concurs with the "No Historic Properties Affected" determination for the project.

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 based on a careful review of the engineering report, environmental information document and other

supporting data which 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, 918 East Divide Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bismarck, ND, 58501-1947.

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 the 3th day of June, 2019.

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