

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: North Water Main Loop
Harwood (Cass County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 0900460-02

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed North Water Main Loop for the City of Harwood 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 project consists of the construction of new water main to connect two dead-end branches on the north end of the city. The proposed project will provide redundancy which will help maintain water service during repairs. It will also reduce maintenance due to frequent flushing of the dead-end water mains.

The City of Harwood plans to apply for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to finance the project.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely in the alignment of existing right-of-way. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with the determination of "No Adverse Effect" provided the project takes place in the manner and location shown in the documentation and all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 25-0227). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed this project (ID No. NWO-2000-60079-BIS) and determined that a Section 404 permit is not required. 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 Harwood 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.

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

Dated the 28th day of October, 2025.

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