



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502
www.deq.idaho.gov

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
John H. Tippetts, Director

January 7, 2019

The Honorable Michael Collins
Mayor of the City of Lewiston
P.O. Box 617
Lewiston, ID 83501

RE: Categorical exclusion for the City of Lewiston Wastewater Improvement Project

Dear Mayor Collins:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document for the City of Lewiston Wastewater Improvement Project and has issued a categorical exclusion (Cat Ex) determination. A Cat Ex exempts the referenced project from further substantive environmental review requirements because no environmental effects were found. Enclosed is a signed copy of the Cat Ex for the referenced project.

DEQ has requested that *The Lewiston Tribune*, newspaper of record for the city, publish the enclosed Cat Ex legal notice for the referenced project one time on January 11, 2019. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain copies of the full Cat Ex.

The City of Lewiston should keep a copy of the Cat Ex and the legal notice as published for their records. No required public comment or waiting period is required after notification of a Cat Ex. Following publication of the legal notice, you may proceed with the State Revolving Fund loan.

Nicolas Hiebert at the DEQ Lewiston Regional Office, (208) 799-4886, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep him informed of progress on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry N. Burnell".

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:AO:tg

Enclosures

The Honorable Michael Collins
January 7, 2019
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c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office
Nicolas Hiebert, DEQ Lewiston Regional Engineer
Justin Walker, PE, Keller Associates, jwalker@kellerassociates.com
Ryan Wagner, PE, Keller Associates, rwagner@kellerassociates.com
Larry Rupp, PE, Keller Associates, lrupp@kellerassociates.com

January 7, 2019

**Categorical Exclusion
Determination for the Proposed**

City of Lewiston Wastewater Improvement Project, Nez Perce County, Lewiston, Idaho

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted an environmental review and analysis of the November 2018 *City of Lewiston Wastewater Treatment Plan Environmental Information Document* for the City of Lewiston in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans” (IDAPA 58.01.12). DEQ has determined that this project does not involve any extraordinary circumstances requiring additional environmental analysis and documentation and is therefore eligible for a categorical exclusion (Cat Ex). Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements under the SERP.

Project Description:

- Upgrade the north shore pump station
- Upgrade primary clarifiers
- Upgrade primary sludge pumping
- Repair existing aeration basins and install a new aeration basin
- Replace blowers
- Upgrade Return Activated Sludge/Waste Activated Sludge (RAS/WAS) pump station
- Replace ultraviolet disinfection system

DEQ has determined that this project is consistent with criteria for issuing a Cat Ex for the following reasons:

- The proposed facility improvements are solely directed toward minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, functional replacement of equipment, or the construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities.
- The replacement of existing on-site systems generally do not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharge or the loadings of pollutants from existing sources, or relocate existing discharge.
- The facility improvements will not provide the capacity to serve a population that is projected to grow at a rate 25% in excess of the 20-year population growth rate expectations for the state as a whole according to the Idaho Division of Financial Management projections and are not expected to change the current system’s population by greater than 500 estimated residential units.
- There will be no significant effect on the quality of the human environment either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other federal, state, local, or private actions as a result of this project.

- There will be no direct or indirect effects to (a) cultural resource sites; (b) endangered or threatened species or their habitats; (c) essential fish habitat; (d) environmentally important natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, important farmlands, aquifer recharge zones; or (e) other resource areas identified in DEQ's guidance.
- The alternative selected by the City of Lewiston for construction is cost-effective and has not caused significant public controversy.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the treatment system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- Air Quality: Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the "Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho" (IDAPA 58.01.01.651). IDAPA 58.01.01.651 states that reasonable precautions shall be taken for dust control and suppression by using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, DEQ recommends that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes best management practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- Cultural Resources: If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments, or other human-made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments, or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Nez Perce Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribe, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
- Stormwater: Stormwater runoff shall be handled through an Environmental Protection Agency Stormwater Construction General permit and the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP and stormwater BMPs will be implemented prior to, during, and after project construction to reduce the potential for erosion from runoff.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.
- The project contractor should implement any other appropriate BMPs to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

Overall, completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects by improving wastewater treatment, ensuring state and federal system requirements, thereby protecting public health and water quality.

The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for public review on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx or at the following locations:

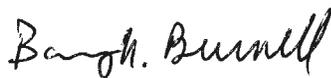
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1410 North Hilton St.
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/loan SERP contact: Adam Oliver – (208) 373-0406

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Lewiston Regional Office
1118 F. Street
Lewiston, Idaho 83501
Regional Office contact: Nicolas Hiebert – (208) 799-4886

City of Lewiston
P.O. Box 617
Lewiston, Idaho 83501
Contact: Mayor Michael Collins – (208) 791-6483

A one-time publication is required in the newspaper of record. DEQ has requested the *The Lewiston Tribune* publish the Cat Ex legal notice for the City of Lewiston Wastewater Improvement Project one time on January 11, 2019. The legal notice will inform the public that the proposed project has received a Cat Ex, which excludes the project from further environmental review.

The Cat Ex and published legal notice should be made part of the final planning document for this project.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR THE
CITY OF LEWISTON WASTEWATER PROJECT

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that the proposed wastewater improvement project for the Lewiston wastewater system, Nez Perce County, Idaho, conforms to the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans” (IDAPA 58.01.12) by which the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements.

- Upgrade the north shore pump station
- Upgrade primary clarifiers
- Upgrade primary sludge pumping
- Repair existing aeration basins and install a new aeration basin
- Replace blowers
- Upgrade Return Activated Sludge/Waste Activated Sludge (RAS/WAS) pump station
- Replace ultraviolet disinfection system

Copies of the notice of categorical exclusion and the environmental information document upon which it is based are available for public review on DEQ’s website at www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-review.aspx or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
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1410 North Hilton St.
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