



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Curt Fransen, Director

January 11, 2013

Bill Partridge, President
Castle Mountain Creek Owners Association
7 Castle Mountain Drive
Garden Valley, Idaho 83622

RE: Categorical Exclusion for the for the Castle Mountain Creek Owners Association Drinking Water System Improvement Project (DWG 122-2012-3)

Dear Mr. Partridge:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed an environmental review of the project referenced above 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 please find a signed copy of the Cat Ex for the referenced project.

DEQ has requested that the *Idaho World* newspaper publish the enclosed Legal Notice of a Cat Ex (legal notice) for the referenced project one (1) time on Wednesday, January 23, 2013. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain copies of the full Cat Ex.

The Castle Mountain Creek Owners Association should keep a copy of the Cat Ex and the legal notice as published for their records. There is no required public comment period after public notification of a Cat Ex. Following publication of the legal notice you may proceed with the State Revolving Fund loan.

Kevin Ryan at the DEQ Boise Regional Office, (208) 373-0184, is your local DEQ contact on the reference project. Please keep him informed of progress on this project.

Sincerely,

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

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:EC:dls

Enclosures: Cat Ex, Cat Ex Legal Notice

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office
Charlie Parkins, DEQ State Office
Kevin Ryan, DEQ Boise Regional Office
Brian Wilkinson, SPF Engineering, (bwilkinson@spfwater.com)

January 11, 2013

**Categorical Exclusion Determination for the
Castle Mountain Creeks Owners Association Drinking Water System Improvement Project,
Boise County, Garden Valley, Idaho**

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has conducted an environmental review and analysis of the January 8, 2013 *Castle Mountain Creeks Facility Plan – Request for Categorical Exclusion* in accordance with state procedures for implementing an environmental review under the Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities (IDAPA 58.01.22) and the Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program (IDAPA 58.01.20). DEQ has determined that this project does not involve any extraordinary circumstances which require additional environmental analysis and documentation and is therefore eligible for a Categorical Exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempt from further substantive environmental review requirements under the state environmental review procedures.

The proposed drinking water improvement project consists of the following:

- Replacement of existing valve actuator in an existing vault at the intake location
- Replacement of granular activated carbon for the water treatment facility
- Replacement of approximately 6,590 lineal feet of 2 inch, 4 inch, and 6 inch mainline
- Replacement of 4 pressure reducing valves
- Installation of 3 flushing hydrants
- Installation of new air-vacuum valves
- Installation of a new chlorine feed pump
- Installation of 15 new gate valves
- Installation of a new pressure relief valves
- Installation of 3 booster pump stations
- Installation of 4 new flushing hydrants
- Tie over approximately 18 existing service connections

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

- The proposed facility improvements are solely directed toward minor rehabilitation of the existing facilities and construction of new ancillary facilities.
- 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 be expected to change the current system's population by greater than 500 estimated residential units (ERUs).
- 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 affects to (a) cultural resource sites; (b) endangered or threatened species or their habitats; (c) environmentally important natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands, aquifer recharge zones; or (d) other resource areas identified in DEQ's guidance.

- The alternative selected by the Castle Mountain Creek Owners Association (Association) 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 distribution 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 DEQ Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, IDAPA 58.01.01.651 (rule). The rule states that reasonable precautions for dust control and suppression include using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, it is recommended that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes DEQ Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- Cultural Resources: If archeological artifacts and human remains are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer shall be notified.
- 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, during, and after project construction to reduce the potential for erosion from runoff.
- Any other appropriate BMPs, where ever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

Overall, completion of the proposed project will have long term positive effects by improving the water supply and water quality.

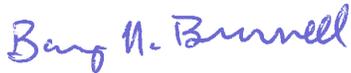
The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for public review on the DEQ web site at <<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx>> or at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1410 North Hilton Street
Boise, Idaho 83706
Grant/Loan NEPA Contact: Ester Ceja
208-373-0585

Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Regional Office
1445 N. Orchard Street
Boise, Idaho 83706
Engineer Contact: Kevin Ryan
208-373-0184

To comply with the Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities (IDAPA 58.01.22) and the Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program (IDAPA 58.01.20), a one time publication is required in the local newspaper with community wide circulation. DEQ has requested the *Idaho World* newspaper publish the Categorical Exclusion legal notice for the Castle Mountain Creek Owners Association Drinking Water System Improvement Project one (1) time on Wednesday, January 23, 2013. The legal notice will inform the public that the proposed project has received a Categorical Exclusion which excludes the project from further environmental review.

The Categorical Exclusion and published notice should be made part of the final facility plan for this project.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR THE CASTLE MOUNTAIN CREEKS OWNERS ASSOCIATION DRINKING WATER SYSTEM IMPRVEMENT PROJECT

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that the proposed drinking water improvement project for the Castle Mountain Creeks Owners Association (Association), Boise County, Idaho conforms to the Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities (IDAPA 58.01.22) and the Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program (IDAPA 58.01.20), by which the project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion. Accordingly, the project is exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements.

The proposed drinking water improvement project consists of the following:

- Replacement of existing valve actuator in an existing vault at the intake location
- Replacement of granular activated carbon for the water treatment facility
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- Installation of a new pressure relief valves
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Copies of the notice of Categorical Exclusion and the January 8, 2013 *Castle Mountain Creeks Facility Plan – Request for Categorical Exclusion* documentation upon which it is based are available for public review on the DEQ web site at <<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/grants-loans/environmental-assessment.aspx>> or at the following locations:

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