STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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

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

August 27, 2012

Mr. Henry Lewis, Chairman
Fernwood Water & Sewer District
P.O. Box 215
Fernwood, Idaho 83830

RE: Environmental Determination for the Fernwood Water & Sewer District Collection System Improvements (WWG 333-2010-3)

Dear Chairman Lewis:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document (EID) for the Fernwood Water & Sewer District (District) collection system improvements project. The potential impacts on a number of environmentally sensitive resources were evaluated in the environmental review. The District's project engineer consulted with a number of appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant issues. The project meets state and federal criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) since the environmental review process indicated no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project.

A FONSI legal notice will be published in the *Gazette Recorder*, newspaper of greatest distribution for the District. DEQ has requested the *Gazette Recorder* publish the legal notice one (1) time, on one (1) day, on Wednesday, September 5, 2012. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain a copy of the full FONSI for review and will give instructions on how they can submit comments. A 30 day public comment period will follow the FONSI legal notice publication. Should there be public comments and concerns related to the project or FONSI, DEQ may ask your help in preparing responses.

Following the 30 day public comment period, any significant comments or concerns will be considered and incorporated as appropriate into the *final* FONSI determination for the referenced project. After issuance of the *final* FONSI, and with approval of all technical considerations in the facility plan, DEQ will be able to proceed with the State Revolving Fund loan.

Katy Baker-Casile, DEQ Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, (208) 666-4640, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep her informed of progress on the project.

Sincerely,

Barry N. Burnell

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

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Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office
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