



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Public Notice

Categorical Exclusion DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) in Sections NAC 445A.6758 to 445A.67612, inclusive, outlines the environmental review procedures to be followed by the Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In accordance with these procedures, NDEP has determined that the project described below is eligible for Categorical Exclusion and may be exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements. The project, if approved, will utilize funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Project Name: New Well

Project No.: No. 55 ARRA Funds Year 2009 Priority List

Applicant: Walker Lake General Improvement District

Estimated Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$530,671

The community of Walker Lake is on the west shore of Walker Lake, about 12 miles north of Hawthorne and 120 miles south of Reno on US 95. The drinking water wells in the community have had a history of sanding and currently only one of the two wells is operational. As Walker Lake's water surface elevation continues to decline, both water quality and water quantity of the drinking water wells appears to be declining. The proposed project includes groundwater resource exploration. If the outcome of the exploration is successful, a production well will be drilled assuming adequate funds are available.

The project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion because it is unlikely to have a negative effect on the quality of the environment. The sites for exploratory drilling are already disturbed. Best management practices will be utilized during construction. The project will have a beneficial effect by ensuring the customers receive water that is safe to drink.

Documentation to support these conclusions is available for public examination at the office of the Division of Environmental Protection, 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada.

Comments for consideration on this proposed decision must be submitted by July 16, 2010 to:

Adele Basham
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701-5405

Comments may be submitted by FAX to (775) 687-9510 or by e-mail to abasham@ndep.nv.gov. Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Adele Basham at (775) 687-9488.