



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

Public Notice

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) in Sections NAC 445A.742 to 445A.762, 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. In accordance with these procedures, NDEP has determined that the project described below is eligible for Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and may be exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements.

Project Name: Sewage Treatment Rehabilitation

Applicant: Elko County for the Town of Mountain City

Project No: 5 - Year 2013 Priority List

Estimated Clean Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$320,000

Mountain City is a small, rural town of approximately 60 people located in northern Elko County approximately 90 miles north of Elko and 16 miles south of the Idaho border. The treatment ponds and disposal system were built in 1969. The rapid infiltration basins (RIBs) were built in 1984 along with the secondary treatment lift station and associated piping.

In 2004, NDEP's circuit riders identified the following issues with the wastewater treatment system: 1) no staff gauges in the ponds; 2) sludge in the treatment pond needs to be removed; 3) ponds are covered in duckweed and dead vegetation and this needs to be removed; 4) ponds need to be lined; and 5) the monitoring well used for compliance monitoring is a French drain and is located in a cow pasture.

NDEP is requiring the Town to line the existing sewer ponds due to high groundwater conditions and their location with respect to the Owyhee River. Sludge will be removed from the existing treatment ponds, 80-mil HDPE liners will be installed, and the pond embankments will be raised to increase treatment capacity and effectiveness. The lift station from the treatment ponds to the RIBs will be rehabilitated. The RIBs will be reconditioned and the isolation valves will be replaced. An additional monitoring well is required down gradient of the existing RIBs and will be installed as a part of this project. A final project element is the rehabilitation of the primary lift station in town and the addition of an ultrasonic level probe, along with the necessary telemetry, for flow monitoring.

NDEP assessed the potential environmental effects of the proposed project and determined that the project is eligible for a FONSI because it is unlikely to have a negative effect on the quality of the human environment. The existing sewer treatment plant is located on county property and all construction work on the treatment system will be done within the existing fenced property limits. Rehabilitation of the lift stations will occur within existing physical structures.

Information supporting this decision is available for public review at the NDEP office listed below. Comments for consideration on this decision must be submitted by August 24, 2012, to:

Michelle Stamates
Clean 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 mstamate@ndep.nv.gov. Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Michelle Stamates at (775) 687-9331.