

## **Public Notice**

### CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) in Sections 445A.6758 to 445A.67612, inclusive, outlines the environmental review procedures to be followed by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. In accordance with these procedures, NDEP intends to issue a categorical exclusion for the Baker General Improvement District (District) water project. The project will utilize funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).

Project Name: Storage Tank Replacement

Project No.: 46 - Year 2016 Priority List

Applicant: Baker General Improvement District (District)

Total Estimated Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$476,375

Baker is an unincorporated community in White Pine County located approximately 62 miles east of Ely. The proposed project will replace the existing 265,000-gallon, bolted steel, water tank with a 265,000-gallon, welded steel tank. The present tank has been in service for approximately 20 years and experiences significant water loss through leaks.

The existing tank is located on public lands and the District has an easement granted by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM recently conducted an environmental review for an amended easement at the tank site and determined that the proposed project will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and is eligible for a categorical exclusion. The BLM has granted an amended right-of-way at the tank site that allows the District to construct the new tank and dismantle and remove the old tank. The BLM and the District signed the right-of-way on February 24, 2016.

The NACs allow NDEP to utilize an environmental review conducted by another agency as long as the review complies with NDEP's environmental review requirements. NDEP concurs with the BLM's determination of a categorical exclusion for this project, and no further environmental review is recommended. The project is also eligible for a categorical exclusion based upon the regulations of the DWSRF – NAC 445A.67583 2. (b) & (e). The project will have a beneficial effect by ensuring the customers receive water that is safe to drink. Best management practices will be utilized during construction.

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 April 4, 2016 to: Michelle Stamates, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001, Carson City, NV 89701-5405. Comments may also be submitted by FAX to (775) 687-9510 or by e-mail to [mstamate@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:mstamate@ndep.nv.gov). Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Michelle Stamates at (775) 687-9331. The process of environmental review shall be deemed to be complete if no comments that the NDEP determines to be significant are received within the time allowed for public comment.