

Public Notice

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION 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. This project will utilize funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

Project Name: Septic-to-Sewer Conversion – Panther Valley

Project No.: 6 - Year 2017 – Rev 1 Clean Water Priority List

Applicant: Washoe County

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$500,000

This project will abandon septic systems on Panther Drive and connect the existing homes to the Reno sewer collection system. In March of this year the Washoe County Health Department was alerted to the possibility of untreated sewage in the roadside ditches along a portion of Panther Drive, north of Western Road, within Unincorporated Washoe County. In response they collected surface water samples for testing at multiple locations along Panther Drive and at three time periods (March 24th, April 6th, and May 13th). The test results revealed the presence of E. Coli and Fecal Coliform at high levels, indicating the presence of untreated sewage in the roadside ditches.

On April 11, 2016 the Health Department notified the residents in writing of the presence of potential sewage contamination and recommended no contact with the water in the ditches and emphasized keeping children out of the water. At the beginning of June, the Health Department posted signs along the ditches, deeming the condition a threat to public health. As identified in their notice, based on their sampling and area observations including standing water in at least one leach field area, the Health Department determined that there may be numerous failing septic systems in the area. In addition Washoe County Vector Control sampled the ditch water and determined that a mosquito larva is present, further adding to the possible health threats.

The City of Reno owns an 8-inch sewer line located in Western Road, and based on the County's preliminary design, 1,200 linear feet of 8-inch SDR35 PVC sewer pipe and four 48-inch Type 1A manholes will be required to allow all homes on septic systems to connect to the sewer system. There are currently 10 existing homes that would need to be connected immediately. The remaining 5 lots would be conditioned to connect to the municipal sewer system when they are developed.

NDEP assessed the potential environmental effects of the proposed project and determined that the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it is unlikely to have a negative effect on the quality of the environment and an environmental impact statement is not required. No national landmarks or property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric, archeological, or cultural value will be affected by the project. No wetlands, floodplains, agricultural lands, or significant fish or wildlife species or habitat is affected by the project. Best management practices will be utilized during construction.

Documentation supporting this determination is available for public examination at the office of the Division of Environmental Protection, 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada 89702-5405. Comments or questions regarding this notice may be directed to Michelle Stamates at (775) 687-9331 or by e-mail to mstamate@ndep.nv.gov or by mail to Michelle Stamates, Drinking and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, 901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001, Carson City, NV 89701-5405.



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