



Public Notice

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN**

The Nevada Administrative Code 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 has determined that the Town of Tonopah water project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. The project will utilize funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF).

Project Name: Water Meter Replacement

Project No.: 79 - Year 2018 Priority List

Applicant: Town of Tonopah

Total Estimated Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$500,000

The Town of Tonopah (Town) is located in central Nevada, approximately 240 miles from Reno. The Town has a population of approximately 2,980 and a total water meter count of 1,155 (939 residential connections, 213 commercial connections, 1 industrial connection, and 2 hydrant connections).

The project includes the installation and implementation of a drive by, radio-read, metering system to replace the 30-plus year old manual read meters currently installed in the system. According to statistics compiled by the Nevada Rural Water Association, water meters typically lose 1% accuracy every year of usage. Unaccounted for water at the customer connection and loss of revenue due to meter inaccuracy will be corrected with the installation of new meters. In addition, the Town expects a significant savings in manpower. This new system will give the utility more immediate alerts in the event of unusual usage activity that might otherwise go unnoticed until the monthly meter read cycle. The new meters are intended to directly replace the old meters in the existing meter boxes; therefore, no ground-breaking activities are anticipated.

The project is eligible for a categorical exclusion under NAC 445A.67583 (2) (b), replacement of equipment, and may be exempted from further substantive environmental review requirements. 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 determination must be submitted by November 13, 2017 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. 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.