



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 City of North Las Vegas water project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. The project will utilize funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF).

Project Name: Well Replacement

Project No.: 26 - Year 2018 Priority List

Applicant: City of North Las Vegas

Total Estimated Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$11,560,000

The City of North Las Vegas (City) is located in Clark County. The City has five (5) groundwater wells which are blended with surface water purchased from the Southern Nevada Water Authority. Blending water reduces the amount of water being taken from Lake Mead. The City has 6,300 acre feet of groundwater per year that it can use from its wells. The State Engineer has deemed this withdrawal amount to be within the perennial yield of the aquifer.

Currently, four (4) of the City's five (5) wells are inoperable due to casing failures and sanding problems. Not only does this require the use of more valuable Colorado River water, but it is costing the City an additional \$1.5 million in annual Colorado River water purchases. Given the declining water levels in Lake Mead due to continuing drought, it is in the best interest of the City and the Las Vegas Valley to use the groundwater allocated.

This project includes the replacement of four (4) groundwater wells serving the North Las Vegas Utilities water system: Elstner Estates No. 2, West Cheyenne No. 2, Silver Mesa, and Sun Valley. Construction at each site will include drilling and installing gravel pack wells with stainless steel casing and screen. New wellhead piping to the potable water system will be installed as well as new instrumentation and controls. Existing buildings and chlorination equipment will be salvaged for reuse where possible, and the electric service to all sites will be reused. The new wells will be similar in design and construction to the old wells with no planned increase in pumping and no changes in point of diversion or place of use.

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. The projects are also eligible for a categorical exclusion under NAC 445A.67583 (2) (e) because there is sufficient evidence that a significant effect on the quality of the environment is unlikely. 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 20, 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.