



# 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**

### CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION EXPANDED PROJECT SCOPE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) in Sections NAC 445A.6758 to 445A.67612, 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 (NEPA).

Project Name: Glendale Diversion

Project No.: No. 62 Year 2010 Priority List

Applicant: Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)

Estimated Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Assistance: \$8.5 million

In 2010, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) issued a 404 permit for the above project which included formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS Biological Opinion contained mandatory terms and conditions which were incorporated into the ACOE 404 permit and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

In February 2011, the loan contract for the above project was amended to expand the project description to include improvements to the Highland Canal water quality, security and public safety.

The expanded project includes installation of the following security and safety enhancements to the Highland Canal System all within TMWA rights-of-way:

1. Approximately 20,000 lineal feet of security chain link fencing along exposed and vulnerable urban sections of the canal.
2. Pedestrian escape ladders along the canal at selected locations.
3. Wildlife bridges (deer bridges) along the upper portion of the canal system which is exposed to deer migration.
4. Security cameras at selected locations along the canal.

The expanded scope also includes improvements to the Highland Canal Drainage. The improved drainage system will prevent surface water run-off from entering the Highland Canal which can increase turbidity, sediment and pathogenic loading on the Chalk Bluff Treatment Plant. Completion of this part of the project will protect public health. The improved drainage site encompasses an area along US 40 corridor extending from an east boundary of Anselmo Drive, a west boundary of Leroy Street and a south boundary of the Truckee River. The project will be constructed in two phases. The first phase entails the installation of drain system adjacent to and parallel to the Highland Canal within the Comfort Properties residential area bounded by Anselmo Drive to the east and Mesa Parke Road to the west. This notice of a categorical exclusion covers only the first phase.

The installation of reinforced concrete box (RCB) structure in the Highland Canal beginning near the old River Inn and ending at Mesa Park Road and the installation of approximately 500 lineal feet of reinforced concrete canal section downstream of the proposed RCB section is also part of the expanded scope. This section of

Highland Canal is unreliable, is prone to leaks and outages, and does not provide enough freeboard when the canal is operated at its new capacity of 95 MGD. The downhill slope adjacent to the proposed RCB is susceptible to catastrophic failure due to existing leakage and weak, unstable soils. The RCB and canal structure will eliminate leakage in the area and provide water conservation benefits. The project site spans a corridor approximately 1200 feet along the existing canal corridor north of US 40 and west of Mae Anne Avenue.

All of the project components listed above are eligible for a categorical exclusion under NAC 445A.67583(2)(a), rehabilitation of an existing facility and under NAC 445A.67583(2)(e) because there is sufficient evidence that a significant effect on the quality of the environment is unlikely. During construction there will be some disturbance of the site; however, Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the construction specifications to avoid introduction of sediment into drainage channels during construction. Appropriate measures will be taken during construction to ensure compliance with all city, agency and regulatory requirements including dust control, storm water pollution control and traffic control.

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 July 1, 2011 to:

Adele Basham  
Drinking 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 [abasham@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:abasham@ndep.nv.gov). Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Adele Basham at (775) 687-9488.