



Public Notice

Categorical Exclusion Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), in Sections NAC 445A.6758 to 445A.67612, outlines the environmental review procedures to be followed by the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP). This is the State Environmental Review Process that is to be consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion under NAC 445A.67583 because it is the replacement of equipment or structures, minor upgrading or expansion of the existing capacity for the distribution system of a public water system, and sufficient evidence exists that a significant effect on the quality of the environment by this project is unlikely.

Project Name: City of Elko Water Meter and Pit Project

Latitude: 40.8327N
Longitude: 115.7631W
Population: 20,560

The City of Elko's drinking water system is operated by Elko City Water Department, NV0000272, located in Elko County, Nevada. This project will utilize funds from the Nevada Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) in the amount of \$14,150,000. The project is listed on the DWSRF Priority List-Effective May 2024 as: Class III Rehabilitation #66

Elko is located along Interstate 80 in Elko County, Nevada, approximately 289 miles East of Reno. The water department provides water to 10,000 residential connections and 500 commercial and other connections.

NDEP is designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency as the lead agency for proposed projects funded by the DWSRF program for the State of Nevada. The City of Elko has applied for funding for a city-wide meter and meter pit installation project.

The City of Elko has 17 potable water wells that can produce a total of 14,000 gallons of water per minute. During summer and irrigation season, all wells are running at maximum output. This is reduced to three wells during winter months. The city plans to promote water conservation and efficiency in their water distribution system by implementing a fully metered water system. This project will install meters in all existing meter pits, replace aging meters as needed, based on their condition, and install meters and meter pits for existing flat rate water customers. This project will include installation of meters and meter pits for any residence that currently does not have one, which is over 60% of the customers. This project will also include installation of meters and meter pits for all commercial customers that currently do not have one, which is estimated to be 70% of the system.

Implementing a fully metered system will promote efficiency in the distribution system and reduce water loss.

No wetlands, floodplains, agricultural lands, or significant fish or wildlife species or habitats will be affected by the project area of potential impacts. No known national landmarks or property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric, archeological, or cultural value will be affected by the project.

As per NAC 445A.67584, the public comment period for this action is 15 days. Persons wishing to obtain further information regarding the project should submit their comments no later than September 12, 2024. Comments can be submitted to Daniel Morgan, Environmental Scientist III, Office of Financial Assistance, State Revolving Fund Program, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Office of Financial Assistance. The process of environmental review shall be deemed complete if no comments that the NDEP determines to be significant are received within the time allowed for public comment.

A link to NDEP's public notices can be found at: <https://ndep.nv.gov/post>

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