



Public Notice

Categorical Exclusion Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan

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

Project Name: Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) River Mountains Ozone Improvements

Latitude: 36.175 N
Longitude: 115.154 W
Population: 2,258,111

River Mountains Water Treatment Facility (RMWTF) is operated by SNWA, NV0000289, and is located in Clark County, Nevada. This project will utilize funds from the Nevada Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) in an amount of \$56,883,000. The project is listed on the DWSRF Priority List-Effective May 2024 as: Class III Rehabilitation #53.

SNWA provides water to 552,099 residential connections and 42,738 commercial connections.

NDEP is designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the lead agency for proposed projects funded by the DWSRF program for the State of Nevada. SNWA has applied for funding to replace aging ozone treatment equipment, standardize equipment controls, and enhance system resiliency to climate and source water changes. All construction activities will be confined to the existing RMWTF.

SNWA owns and operates both the Alfred Merritt Smith Water Treatment Facility (AMSWTF) and the RMWTF, which treat water from Lake Mead, serving the Las Vegas metropolitan area. This project will specifically address ozone equipment upgrades and control devices at the 360-million gallons per day RMWTF. The project will upgrade the *Cryptosporidium parvum* (Crypto) disinfection system, ensure redundancy for ozone treatment of surface water, standardize equipment and controls between the AMSWTF and the RMWTF facilities, and enhance system resiliency to climate and source water changes. Increased treatment capabilities are needed due to drops in water levels in Lake Mead, which are forecasted to increase water temperatures, potentially impacting water quality.

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, Environmentalist Scientist III, Office of Financial Assistance, State Revolving Fund Program, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Office of Financial Assistance. The process for 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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