



CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies and Public Groups

In accordance with the Nebraska Clean Water State Revolving Fund environmental review process, which is based on the National Environmental Policy Act, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed agency action below:

This information reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded wholly or in part through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, please provide them at this time. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality encourages public input in this decision-making process.

PROJECT NAME: Rehabilitation and Resealing of the Wastewater Lagoon Cells for the Village of Marquette's Complete Retention Lagoon Wastewater Treatment System

APPLICANT: Marquette, Nebraska

COUNTY: Hamilton

POPULATION: 229 (2010 Census)

CWSRF PROJECT NUMBER: C317998

NDEQ ID No.: 58106

AWIN SUSTAINABILITY SCORE: 18

TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT: \$354,200

ESTIMATED CWSRF LOAN AMOUNT: \$210,000

CWSRF LOAN FORGIVENESS: \$100,000

CWSRF SMALL TOWN GRANT: \$44,200

The Village of Marquette is planning a rehabilitation project for their Wastewater Lagoon Treatment Facility. The Village has applied for financial assistance through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program to construct this project.

Marquette's wastewater treatment system is a two cell complete retention lagoon system having a total water surface area of 2.65 acres. The Village has operated the north cell, 1.9 acre (cell #1) as the primary cell with interconnecting line to a second 0.75 acre secondary cell (cell #2). The primary cell has largely held the influent flow with occasional overflow or drawdown to the secondary cell. The secondary cell has grassed over and cannot be considered as sealed which is a violation of NDEQ Title 123. NDEQ Title 123 Chapter 11.008.02 states the minimum wastewater depth of two feet for wastewater lagoons is required to keep emergent weed growth from growing. Chapter 11.008.04 states when inactive cells are placed back into service, the permeability rate shall be limited to meet a maximum of 1/8 inch per day by Title 123 Chapter 5.005.01.

The community was inspected by NDEQ on October 30, 2014 and was provided a summary of potential violations for not maintaining this minimum 2 foot depth for cell #2 and having lagoon seepage greater than 1/8 inch per day. A Preliminary Engineering Report, dated June 2017, prepared

by Miller & Associates proposed resealing cell #2 and adding riprap to both lagoon cells interior slopes which are severely eroded. The project cost was estimated at \$354,200.

The wastewater flow rate was checked by lift station hour meters to make sure that there was adequate flow to maintain two feet of wastewater in the renovated secondary lagoon cell. Marquette's average daily wastewater flow is very low, estimated at 53 gallons per person per day. The community has 229 residents. When multiplied by the per capita flow, equals 12,137 gallons per day for the Village's average daily flow. When analyzed with annual precipitation of 23 inches per year, evaporation of 45 inches per year, and seepage at 0.10 inches per day, Marquette's 2.65 acres of lagoon should be sufficient to operate as a complete retention system and maintain 2 feet of wastewater in the secondary cell. Geotechnical work was conducted to analyze the in situ liner material in the secondary cell. Enough liner material was found for a recompacted, nine to twelve inch thick, clay liner at a projected 0.10 inch per day maximum seepage rate. The existing vegetation will be stripped and the interior sides of cell #1 and #2 will be reworked to a 3 to 1 slope with riprap addition. The floor of cell #2 will be scarified and recompacted for a 12 inch clay liner. Seepage permeability tests will be conducted by a soils lab on the sides and floor after recompaction to make sure the maximum seepage is not exceeded. Any areas that do not pass will need to be reworked and retested.

The project is eligible for financing through the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and is currently found on the FY2018 planning list ranked at 51 points. Eligible costs include engineering and inspection of the project. Marquette's median household income is \$41,250, and has an AWIN, high risk, sustainability score of 18 which does qualify Marquette for 50% loan forgiveness capped at \$100,000, dependent on the availability of funds. The Village is also eligible for a CWSRF Small Town Grant of \$44,200 which when combined with the loan forgiveness totals 40% of the project cost. Small Town Grant dollars are also dependent on availability of funds. The CWSRF loan will have a term of 20 years at a program interest rate of 1.5 percent. In addition to principal and interest payments, an administrative fee of 1 percent of the loan balance would be assessed each year.

Sewer use fees would be pledged to repay the loan. Current residential sewer use rates are a flat rate of \$18.75 per month. The Village of Marquette has approximately 111 combined residential and commercial sewer connections. Sewer rates would need to be raised by \$10.00 per month to cover the debt service and 10% coverage requirement and to qualify for the Small Town Grant. This would equate to an average projected residential sewer rate of approximately \$28.75 per month.

A request for comment was sent to 19 other federal and state agencies by the Consultant. Four responses were received which found no significant impact to each of their concerns. NDEQ reviewed the proposed project for eligibility for a categorical exclusion from National Environmental Policy Act review specified in 40 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 6.204. The project meets all criteria described in the above reference and the Department has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that a Finding of No Significant Impact will not be prepared. The project as proposed is solely directed toward rehabilitation of the existing liner and riprap of interior side slopes of Marquette's wastewater lagoon cells. Justification for categorical exclusion includes:

- The proposed action is not known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts on the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time. No significant increases in odors are expected;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat;

- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric archeological or cultural value, including but not limited to, property listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect environmentally important natural resource areas as wetlands, floodplains, prime farmland, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat. The project site is not located in a designated 100-year flood plain for the unincorporated areas of Hamilton County;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to have a significant effect on the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population including altering the character of existing residential areas, or may not be consistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or federal land management plans. The project does not discriminate against any segment of the community's population;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to cause significant public controversy.

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality shall revoke the categorical exclusion and shall require a full environmental review if, subsequent to the granting of exclusion, the state determines that the proposed project no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion due to changes in the proposed project; or new evidence reveals that serious local or environmental issues exist; or federal, state, local or tribal laws are being violated.

This action is taken on the basis of careful review of the application and other supporting data, which are on file in the office of the NDEQ. These are available for public review upon request. Persons having a comment on this categorical exclusion determination are encouraged to submit such comments directly to Tom Fuenning, Review Engineer, of the Technical Assistance Section of NDEQ, who can be reached at (402) 471-4989 or email: tom.fuenning@nebraska.gov.

Signed this 12th day of October, 2017.

Sincerely,

Jim Macy
Director

JM/tsf

Attachments: Distribution List
Maps

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DISTRIBUTION LIST

MARQUETTE, NEBRASKA

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Lenexa, KS 66219

STATE CONSERVATIONIST

Natural Resources Conservation Service
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APPLICANT:

Village of Marquette
Ruby Skidmore
PO Box 154
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ENGINEER:

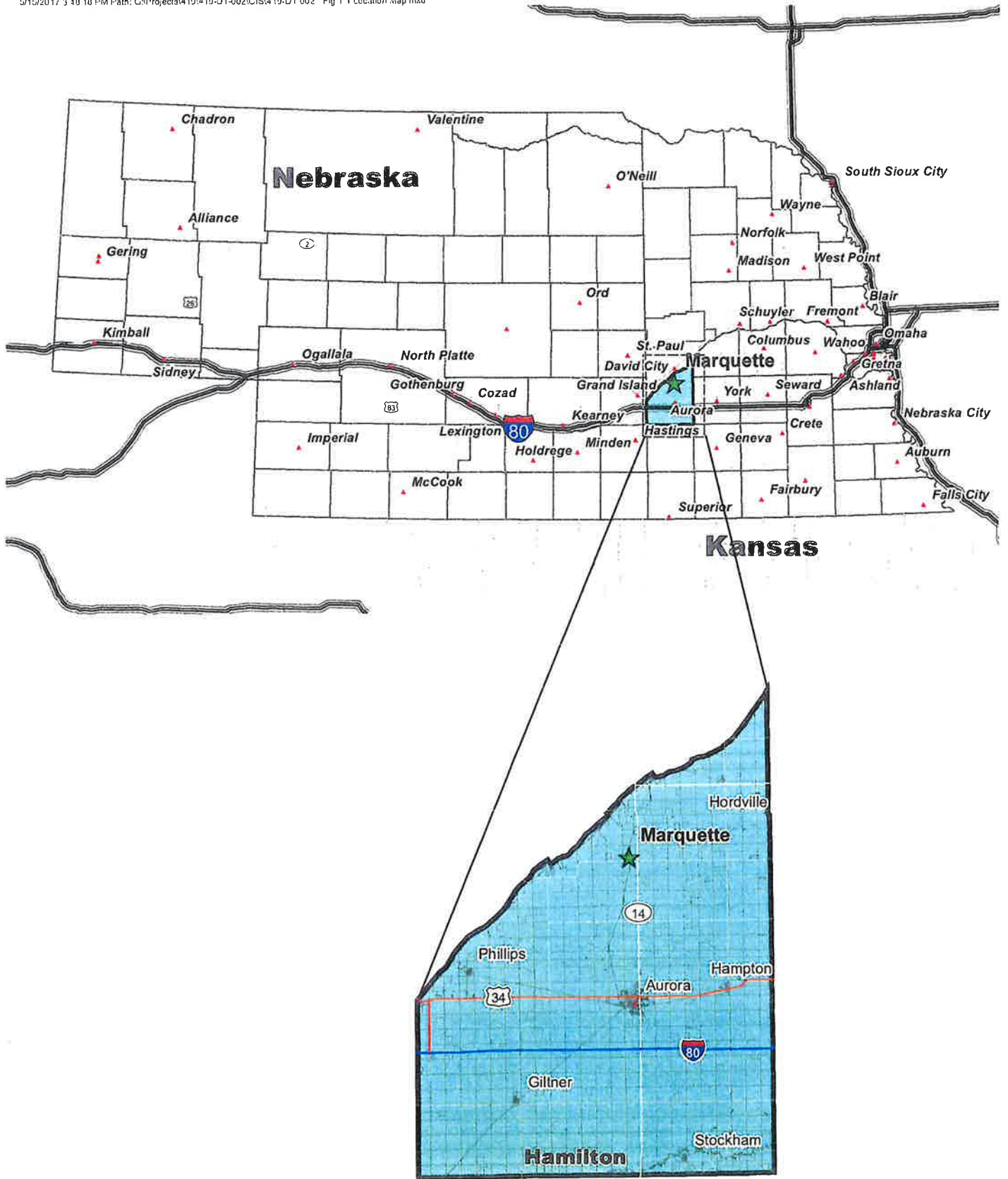
Chris Miller, P.E.
Miller & Associates
1111 Central Avenue
Kearney, NE 68847

LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Aurora News Register
1320 K Street
Aurora, NE 68818
(Public Information Only not for Public Notice)

Upper Big Blue NRD

319 East 25th Street
York, NE 68467

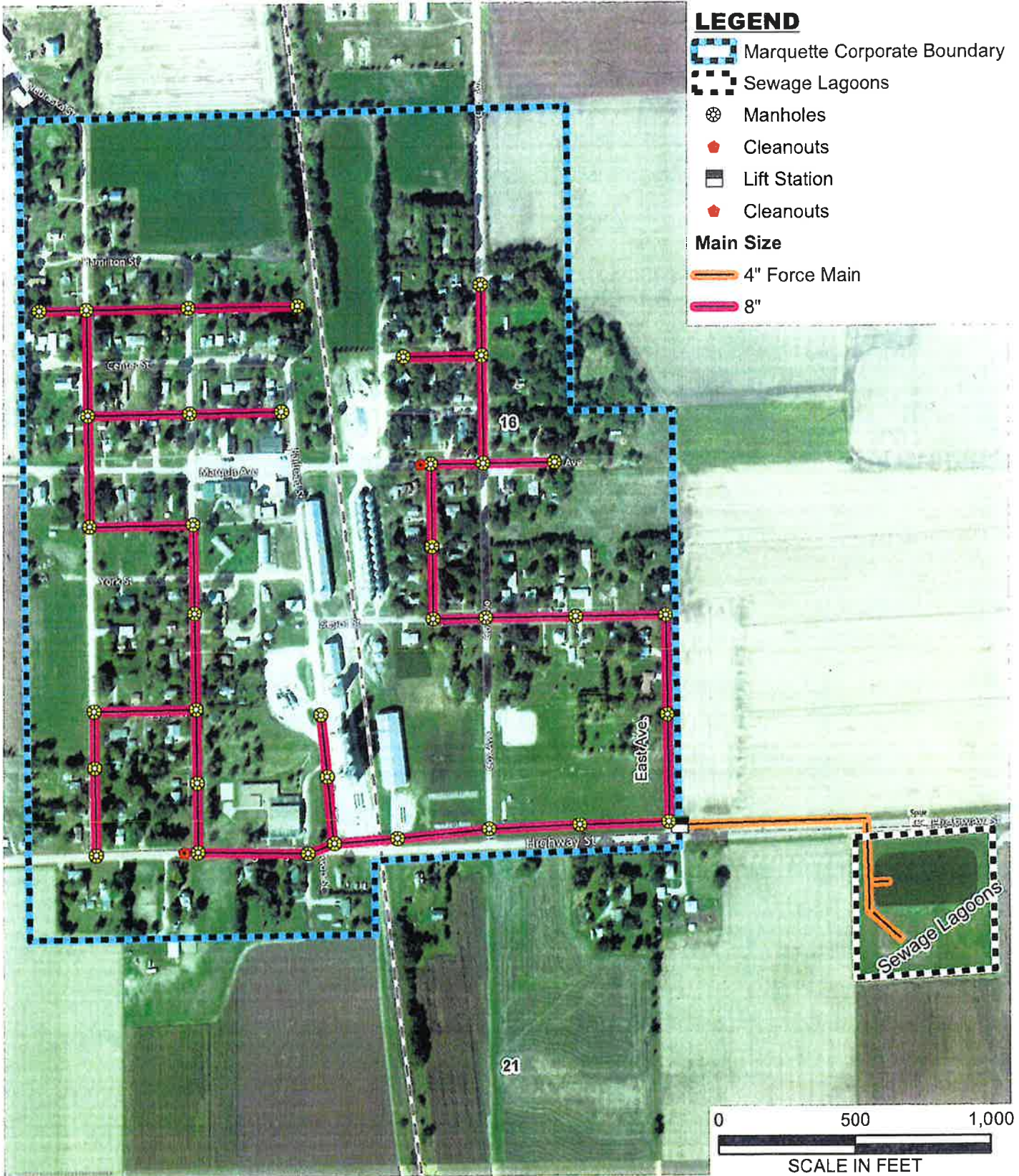


5/15/2017
Prepared By:

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Keamey, NE – (308) 234-6456



Figure 1.1
Location Map
Project 419-D1-002
Marquette, Nebraska



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Note:

1. Aerial Photography acquired from: ESRI, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGP
2. Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure extrapolated from As-Built drawings: Harold Hoskins & Associates Engineering Consultants 1962.

Figure 2.1
Existing
Collection System
 Project 419-D1-002
 Marquette, Nebraska

R 06 W



5/16/2017 2:22:41 PM Path: G:\Projects\419-D1-002-19-D1-002 - Fig 2.2 Existing Pond.mxd

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Note:

1. Aerial Photography acquired from:
 ESRI, i-cubed, USDA FSA,
 USCS, AEX, GeoEye, Cetmapping,
 Aerogrid, IGP



Figure 2.2
Existing Waste
Stabilization Ponds
 Project 419-D1-002
 Marquette, Nebraska