

Pete Ricketts
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Jim Macy

Director

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DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies and Public Groups

In accordance with the Nebraska Drinking 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: Water Main crossing Interstate 80 Interchange
APPLICANT: Gretna, Nebraska
COUNTY: Sarpy
POPULATION: 4,441 (2010 Census)
DWSRF PROJECT NUMBER: D311309
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT: \$504,215
PROJECTED DWSRF LOAN AMOUNT: \$504,215

The City of Gretna has applied for funding, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program jointly administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health (DHHS) and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), to extend its distribution system along Highway 31, across Interstate 80, primarily to provide water service to the Flying J Travel Plaza water system. Gretna has a permit to operate a public water supply system under the provisions of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act and the Regulations Governing Public Water Supply Systems, Title 179.

This project would normally be considered to be a low priority according to the Priority Ranking System; however, the supply well servicing the Flying J system has deteriorated. Further, there are numerous monitoring wells for characterization of volatile organic contaminants in the area, and siting of a new supply well may not be possible because of setback considerations. Thus, the project is included on the Funding List in the proposed State Fiscal Year 2017 Intended Use Plan. In addition, it may be considered for an emergency listing under current fiscal year criteria, if it can be constructed earlier than July 1st to eliminate any loss of water concerns should the noted deterioration result in a casing collapse. Lastly, the project will be reasonably sized for future growth, as this will be the City's first crossing of Interstate 80.

The City is eligible for a 20-year loan at an interest rate of 2 percent per the criteria listed in the IUP. In addition to principal and interest, an administrative fee of 1 percent of the loan balance will be assessed. The current residential water rate is \$6.20 per month for the first 1,000 gallons of water consumed, with a usage rate of \$3.418 for every 1,000 used thereafter. The projected annual DWSRF Debt Service (including 10% coverage) for the project is \$39,273. While typically there could be just over a \$1 increase to rates based on 2,790 active service connections, the City may choose to assess the properties primarily served by the project to pay for the project.

The proposed project was reviewed 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. 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;
- 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, prime farmland, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat;
- The proposed project lies outside of the 100-year floodplain;
- 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.

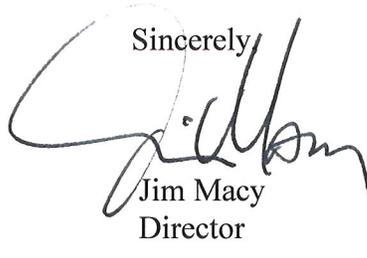
The proposed project is determined by DHHS to help the public water system maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, and will result in the consolidation of a separate water system whose operation, based on its existing well condition and lack of other suitable well sites, is no longer sustainable. The system last underwent a routine sanitary survey by DHHS in December of 2014, wherein two deficiencies were noted and subsequently corrected. That completed survey is the first step of the Technical, Financial, and Managerial (TFM) program policy. The City will still be required to undergo an Initial, and if necessary, a Final TFM Assessment by the DHHS, to ensure that their capabilities meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Also, their current Environmental Tracking Tool score is 10, below the allowable 11 per issued U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance.

The NDEQ 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 Steve McNulty, DHHS at 402 471-1006 or email steve.mcnulty@nebraska.gov, or John Danforth, Water Division of NDEQ at 402 471-3373 or email john.r.danforth@nebraska.gov.

Signed this 14th day of April, 2016.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Macy", is written over the typed name and title.

Jim Macy
Director

Attachments: Distribution List
 Map

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DISTRIBUTION LIST
GRETNA, NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES – DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Steve McNulty
P.O. Box 95026
Lincoln, NE 68509-5026

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Mitch Paine
P.O. Box 94676
Lincoln, NE 68509-4676

NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION

Craig Wacker/Carey Grell
P.O. Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

DIRECTOR, NEBRASKA STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68508-2554

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

~~Heather Voorman~~ *Rebecca Schademann*
P.O. Box 94666
Lincoln, NE 68509

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Eliza Hines
203 West Second Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

LOCAL NEWSPAPER (Public Information Only)

Gretna Breeze
604 Fort Crook Road
Bellevue, NE 68005

CONSULTING ENGINEER

Steven Perry, P.E.
Olmsted & Perry Consulting Engineers, Inc.
10730 Pacific Street, Suite 232
Omaha, NE 68114

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Nick Chevance
Environmental Coordinator
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Ken Shaw
Room 308, Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

John Moeschen
State Program Manager
US Army corps of Engineers
Nebraska State Office, Suite 1
8901 South 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138-3621

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Chris Simmons/Kelly Beard-Tittone
11201 Renner Blvd
Mail Code: WWPDWIMB
Lenexa, KS 66219

STATE CONSERVATIONIST

Soil Conservation Service
Federal Building, Room 345
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

APPLICANT

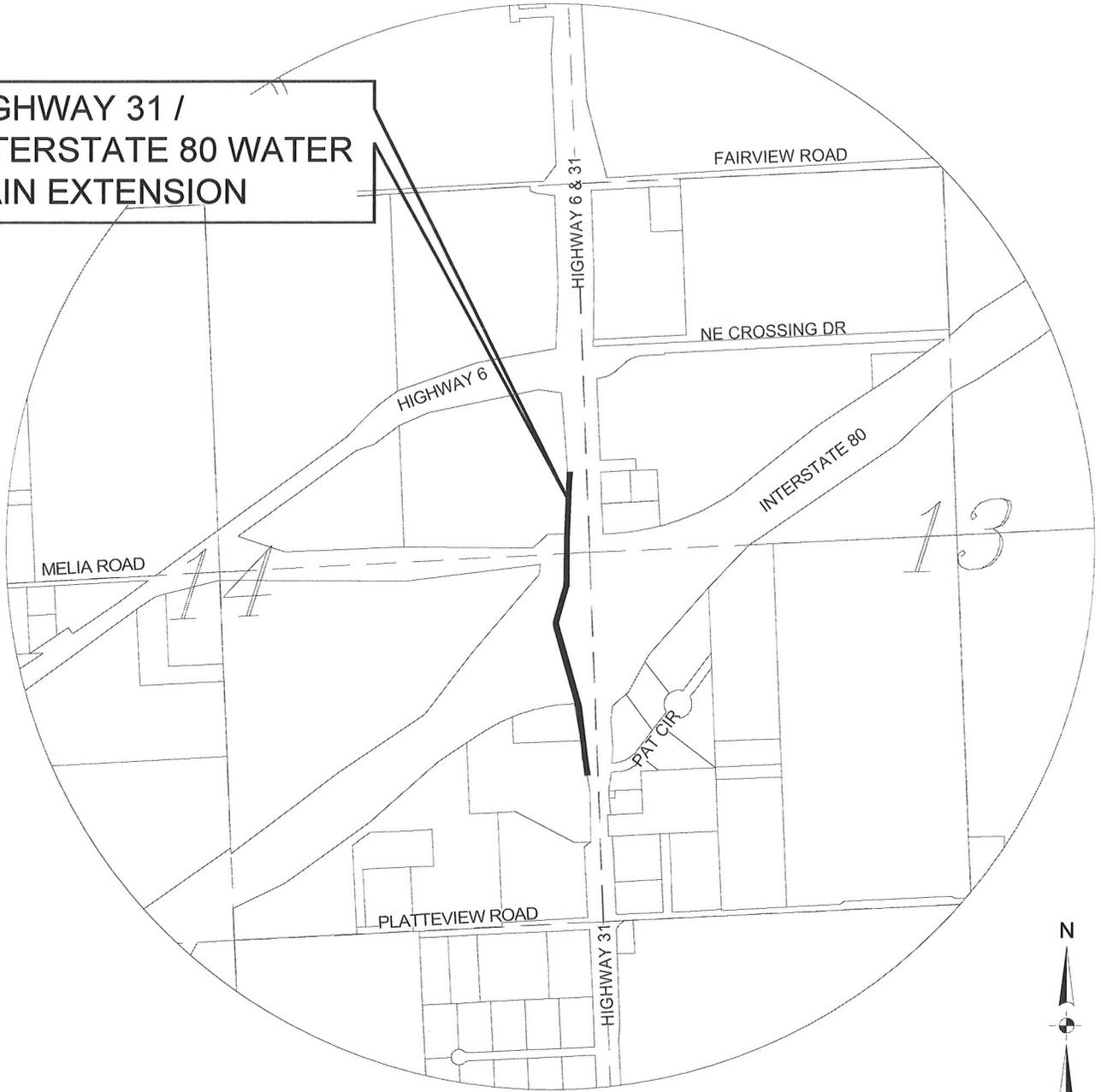
Jeffrey Kooistra, City Administrator
City of Gretna
204 N. McKenna Avenue
Gretna, NE 68028

PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NRD

8901 S. 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138-6543

GRETNA, NEBRASKA

**HIGHWAY 31 /
INTERSTATE 80 WATER
MAIN EXTENSION**



PROJECT LOCATION MAP

SHEET NO. 1 of 1	PROJECT NO. 16037 DATE MARCH 2016	PROJECT LOCATION MAP	HIGHWAY 31 / INTERSTATE 80 WATER MAIN EXTENSION GRETNA, NEBRASKA	OLMSTED & PERRY CONSULTING ENGINEERS INC. 10730 PACIFIC STREET SUITE 232 OMAHA, NEBRASKA
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