

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: 2025 Water Main Replacement  
Kenmare (Ward County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 5100515-03

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed 2025 Water Main Replacement for Kenmare in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of replacing drinking water main that is at the end of its useful life. Water main at the end of its useful life deteriorates and becomes susceptible to contamination and line breaks, causing potential health risks and costly repairs. The proposed project will reduce sudden water main breaks, the associated health risks, and costly repairs.

The City of Kenmare has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely in the alignment of the existing water infrastructure. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concluded that no historic properties will be affected by this project provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 25-0091). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Kenmare and Cass County.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Danielle Peltier, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025.

David J. Bruschwein, P.E.  
Director  
Division of Municipal Facilities