CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: 2025 Street & Water Improvements, District

65, Project 2025-03

Mandan (Morton County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 3000596-14

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed 2025 Street & Water Improvements, District 65, Project 2025-03 for the City of Mandan 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 will replace the drinking water distribution system, including water mains and water service lines to the curb stop, and rehabilitate the sanitary sewer collection system in the Monte Drive neighborhood. The infrastructure within the Monte Drive neighborhood is nearing the end of its useful life and is failing. This project will reduce service disruptions, operation and maintenance costs, and health and safety concerns.

The City of Mandan has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$1,930,000 to finance the water system replacement portion of 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 infrastructure and within the existing city right-of-way. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" provided the project takes place in the location and manner described in the documentation and all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 25-0052). 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 Mandan and Morton 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 Hristo Papalichev, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 7th day of May, 2025.

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