

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: New Office and Shop Building,
Missouri West Water System (Morton
County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 3001431-03

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed New Office and Shop Building project for Missouri West Water System (MWWS) 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 existing office building is nearly 50 years old and was not built to current codes. A feasibility analysis of the existing office building was conducted, and it was determined that due to the potential costs of upgrades and the existing building is much larger than MWWS needs, a new building at a different location would be the best option. The new building will be constructed on a vacant lot owned by MWWS in compliance with all current codes and will suit the system better.

MWWS plans to apply for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$3,039,000 to finance the project. The system has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

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.: 26-0062). 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed this project (ID No. NWO-2025-01782-BIS) and determined that a Section 404 permit is not required.

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 St., Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated April 10, 2026.

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