

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As required by guidelines for the preparation of environmental impact statements, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed action below:

Project: Stanley Rural Distribution – Part 2  
Western Area Water Supply Authority (WAWSA) and Ray & Tioga Water  
Supply District (R&T WSD)

Location: Mountrail County, North Dakota

DWSRF Project No.: 5301686-02

Total Cost: \$10,325,016

A Finding of No Significant Impact for this project was originally published on May 6, 2020, in Mountrail County. The project area has expanded and the original Finding of No Significant Impact is being amended.

The proposed project is for the installation of additional rural water pipe to connect new users to the existing rural distribution system. The purpose of these improvements is to provide potable drinking water to users in the rural water service area. This project will ensure that WAWSA and R&T WSD can continue to serve existing and new residents in Mountrail County.

The Western Area Water Supply Authority has obtained a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan to finance the project. The rural water district has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is located in northwestern North Dakota and will install approximately 98 miles of rural water pipe in Mountrail County. For further discussion of this see Item V, Environmental Impacts of Proposed Project in the attached Environmental Assessment document. Wetlands, area flood plains, threatened or endangered species habitat, or archeological sites will not be adversely impacted. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (ND SHPO) has concurred with the “No Adverse Effect” determination for the proposed project area (ND SHPO Ref.: 23-5514) provided the sites listed in the accepted Class III Cultural Resource Inventory are avoided.

The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement has been made. This action is taken on the basis of a

Careful review of the engineering report, environmental information document, and other supporting data which are on file in the Municipal Facilities Division of the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.

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

After evaluating the comments received, the agency will make a final decision; however, no administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Dated the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.

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