



**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
SEGMENT W5-A PIPELINE PROJECT**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Date: March 7, 2018
Action: Water System Improvements Project
Location of Project: Toole County, Montana
DEQ Funding: \$ 252,000
Total Project Cost: \$ 13,926,620

An environmental review has been conducted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding construction of a drinking water project in Toole County, Montana. The pipeline will be part of the North Central Montana Regional Water System. It will convey water from the city of Shelby's storage reservoir on the northeast corner of Shelby to a new water district called Nine-Mile and to Oilmont, Montana. This project may be viewed on the DEQ website.

The proposed action consists of the construction of transmission pipelines of approximately 37.5 miles of primarily PVC pipe ranging in diameter from 6-inches to 16-inches. Also, two pump stations, two storage tanks, and two meter vaults will be constructed.

The affected environment will generally be a corridor beginning at the City of Shelby and going north to nine-mile road approximately 28 miles, then going west approximately 2.5 miles along nine-mile road toward Sunburst and also east and southeast approximately 7 miles along nine-mile road to its point of connection to Nine-Mile Water District and Oilmont. A project map is available on the DEQ website and is available by contacting the persons listed below.

The DEQ utilized the following references in completing its environmental review of this project: 1) the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System, dated December 2004 (the lead agency for the EA was the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation in cooperation with: the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation); 2) the Final Engineering Report for Rocky Boy's/North Central Regional Water System Project, Segment W5-A Shelby to Oilmont CWD dated January 2016, prepared by Kadrmas Lee & Jackson (KLJ) and Advanced Engineering and Environmental Solutions (AE2S); 3) a Potential Contaminant Source Review for Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water Project Shelby to

Sweetgrass Transmission Mains/Alignment Project Environmental Review, prepared by DEQ Source Water Protection section, dated February 22, 2018 and; 4) a Project Manual and Project Drawings Segment W5-A Shelby to Oilmont CWD, prepared by KLJ and AE2S, received January 25, 2018. These references are available for review upon request by contacting:

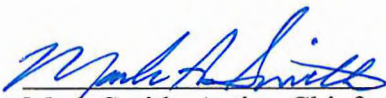
Marc Golz
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
Phone (406) 444-6770
Email: mgolz@mt.gov

Or:

Larry Bonderud
North Central Montana Regional Water Authority
P.O. Box 2456
Havre, MT 59501
Phone: (406) 450-5196

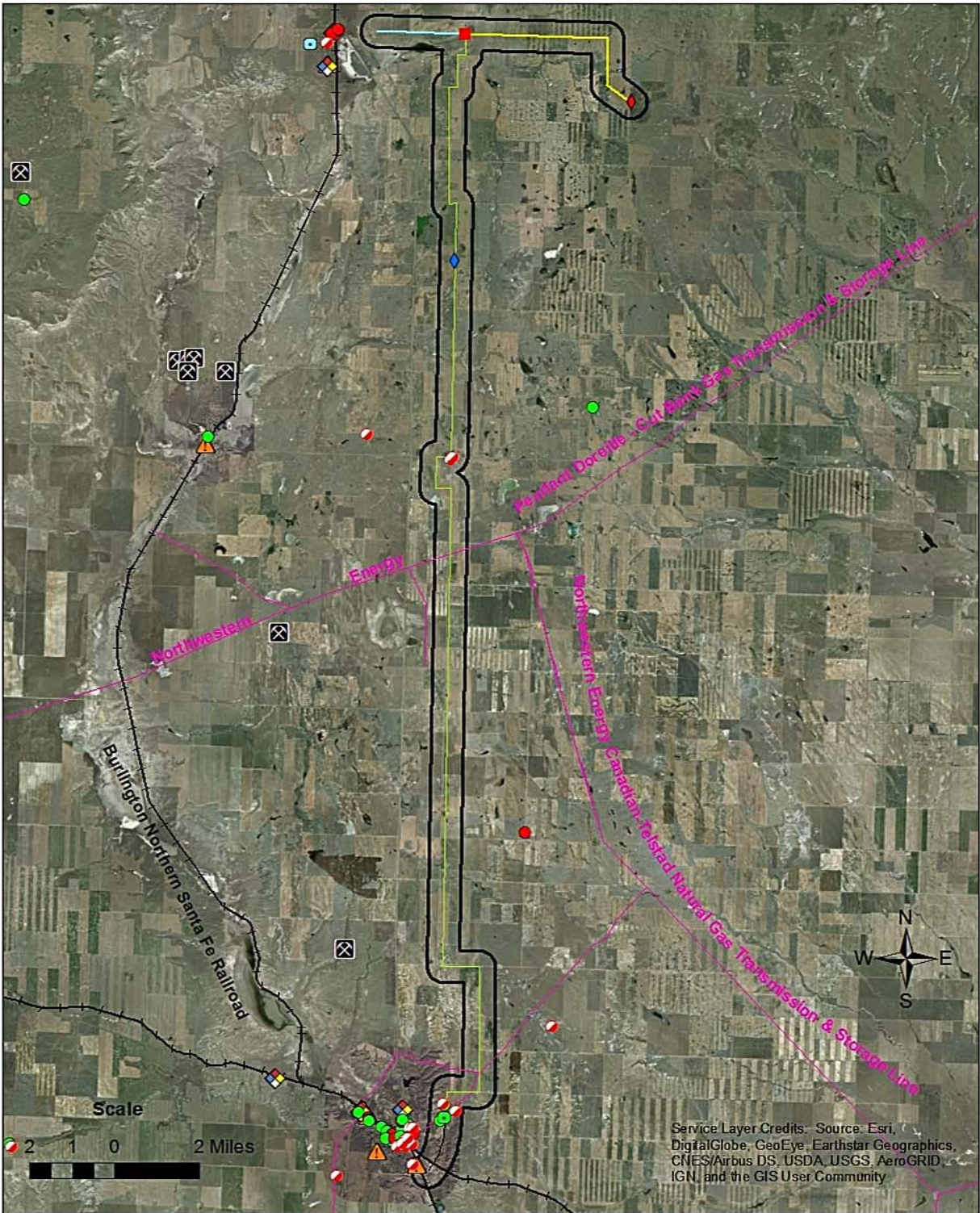
Comments on this finding or on the EA may be submitted to DEQ at the above address. Comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this FONSI in the newspaper. After evaluating substantive comments received, DEQ will revise the EA or determine if an EIS is necessary. Otherwise, this finding of no significant impact will stand if no substantive comments are received during the comment period or if substantive comments are received and evaluated and the environmental impacts are still determined to be non-significant.

Signed,


Mark Smith, Acting Chief
Engineering Bureau

c: file

Figure 1. North Central Regional Water Authority Shelby To Sweetgrass Alignment Potential Contaminant Source Review



Legend

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 8-inch pipe | Proposed Pump Station Near Sunburst | Hazardous Waste Handlers |
| 10-inch Pipe | New Oilmont Tank | Permitted Open Cut Site |
| 12-inch pipe | Underground Fuel Storage Tanks (USTs) | Pending Open-Cut Permitted Site |
| 16-inch pipe | Active Leaking UST | Remediation Response Sites |
| Existing Sunburst Tank | Resolved Leaking UST Site | Railroad |
| E Shelby Tank | | Federal Natural Gas Transmission & Storage Pipelines |
| Proposed Stand Pipe | | |