

## Notice of Supplemental Finding of No Significant Impact

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS

As required by state and federal rules for determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed action below:

<u>Project:</u>	Sidney Wastewater Treatment System Improvements
<u>Location:</u>	Sidney, Montana
<u>Project Number:</u>	C303213 & C303394
<u>Total Project Cost:</u>	\$16,516,000

The City of Sidney, through its 2012 Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), identified the need to construct a new wastewater treatment facility. As discussed in the 2014 Sidney Wastewater Treatment System Improvements Environmental Assessment (EA), the proposed improvements will be implemented in three phases. Phase 1 improvements (completed) included construction of three I/P cells. Phase 2 improvements (completed) included construction of four aerated ponds and a building to house the UV disinfection system, laboratory, and aeration blowers. Phase 3 improvements (2018 construction) are to include construction of an influent lift station, a headworks screening facility, and the removal/disposal of sludge from existing cell 1 and its subsequent conversion to a storage cell. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for these projects was issued on April 18, 2014. This FONSI is a supplement to the previously issued FONSI. The purpose of this supplement is to address and publicly notice recent changes to the project scope/design.

While the I/P cells are currently working as designed, the City has determined that installing a discharge pipe to the Yellowstone River would eliminate the need to construct a storage pond (part of the phase 3 improvements) resulting in a cost savings of approximately \$1,000,000 dollars in project costs. Furthermore, facility operations and maintenance activities will be simplified, and the long-term reliability of the system to handle increased flows will be enhanced. The City will still preferentially utilize the I/P cells for discharge to take advantage of the improved treatment I/P cells provide, but will be able to utilize the outfall pipe when maintenance is needed for the I/P cells, or if the hydraulic capacity of the I/P cells were ever to diminish from long-term use. The new discharge structure will be located at the southeast corner of the facility. The concrete structure will be inset into the river bank, will have cascading steps down to the river's edge, and covered with a grate to keep out large debris.

The City has applied for and received concurrence on the necessary permits from the Army Corps of Engineers; the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and Department of Environmental Quality for construction of the discharge structure on the banks of the Yellowstone River. The City's MPDES permit (MT0021849) is in the process of being modified, adding a second outfall location that will allow for a direct discharge to the Yellowstone River.

Except for these changes, all aspects and conclusions made in the 2014 Environmental Assessment remain accurate.

The environmental review record, including the 2014 Environmental Assessment, the original FONSI, and the Sidney Outfall Project Report prepared December 2016 are available for public examination during normal working hours at the following locations:

Mike Abrahamson, P.E.  
Department of Environmental Quality  
1520 East Sixth Avenue  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-09011  
[mabrahamson@mt.gov](mailto:mabrahamson@mt.gov)

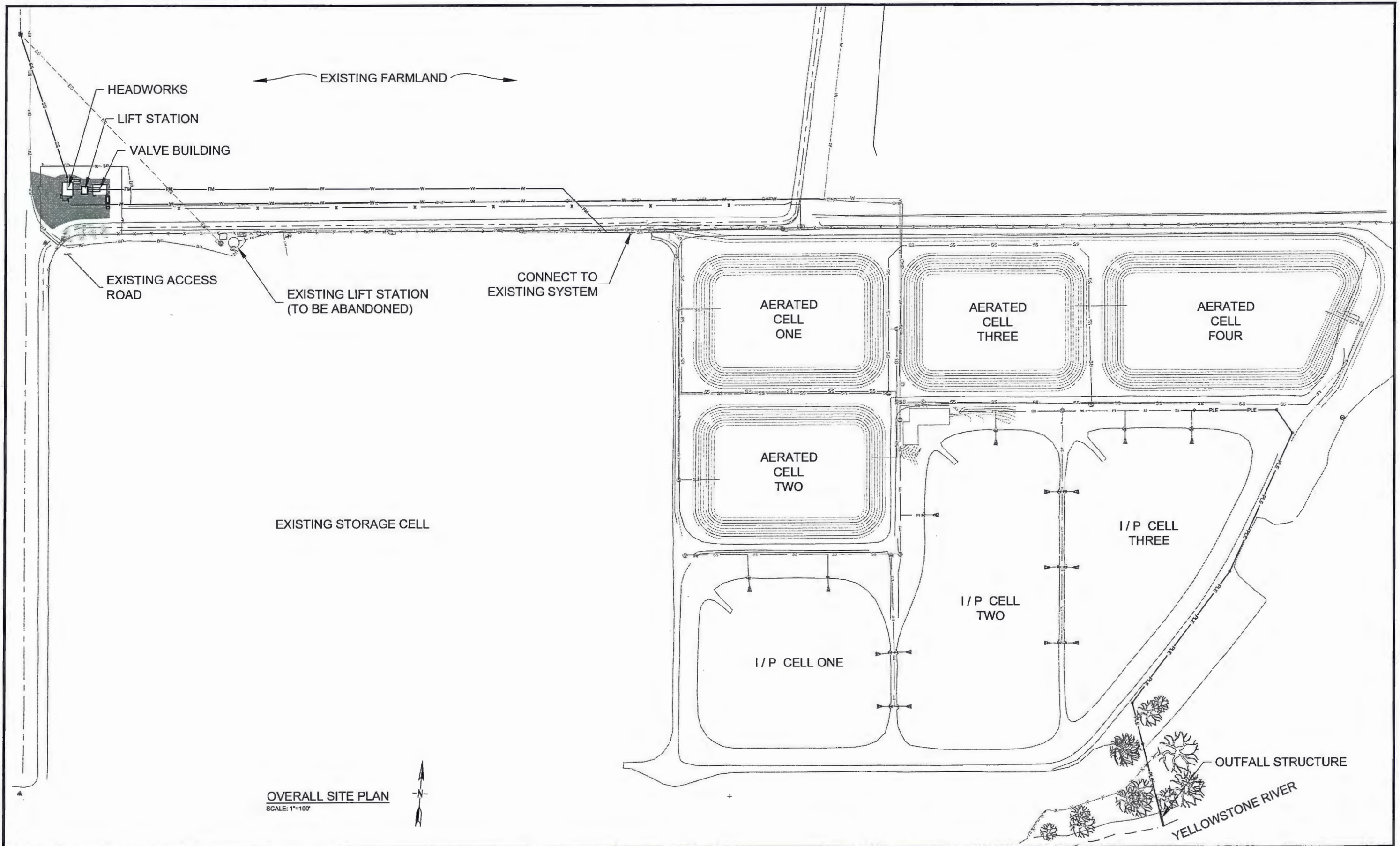
Rick Norby, Mayor  
City of Sidney  
115 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE  
Sidney, MT 59270

Comments regarding the Supplemental FONSI and outfall construction may be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality at the above address. After evaluating substantive comments received, the department will revise the environmental assessment or determine if an environmental impact statement is necessary. 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, the agency will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Supplemental Finding of No Significant Impact.

Sincerely,



Paul LaVigne, WPCSRF Program Manager  
Engineering Bureau  
Water Quality Division  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality



OVERALL SITE PLAN  
SCALE: 1"=100'

VERIFY SCALE		REVISIONS		BY	DATE
THESE PRINTS MAY BE REDUCED. LINE BELOW MEASURES ONE INCH ON ORIGINAL DRAWING.		NO.	DESCRIPTION		
MODIFY SCALE ACCORDINGLY					



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DRAWN BY: RLL  
DSGN. BY: LCG  
APPR. BY: CMH  
DATE: 10/2017  
Q.C. REVIEW BY:  
DATE:

SIDNEY WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY  
PHASE THREE  
SIDNEY MONTANA  
OVERALL SITE PLAN

PROJECT NUMBER
SHEET NUMBER
DRAWING NUMBER

V:\0717623 PH 3\CAD\SHETS L\SF\FIGURE.DWG PLOTTED BY RANDY LARANCE ON Feb/12/2018

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