NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CITY OF KALISPELL, MONTANA LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

July 9, 2025

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the above-named project. The lead service line replacement project will replace 30 lead service lines. The work will occur within a 1-mile radius of the Flathead County Court House, on either side of South Main Street (Highway 93). The work will occur in three schedules, primarily along the following streets:

- Schedule 1: 4th Street W. between S. Meridian Road and 10th Avenue W.; 7th and 4th Avenues W. between 3rd and 4th Streets W.; and 2nd and 3rd Avenues W. between 4th and 6th Streets W.
- Schedule 2: at the corner of South Main Street and East Center Street; 5th Avenue E. between 2nd and 3rd Streets E.; 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th Avenues E. between 5th and 6th Streets E.; 1st and 2nd Avenues E. between 11th and 12th Streets E.; 5th and 6th Avenues E. between 10th and 11th Streets E.; and at 5th Avenue E. and Birchwood Court
- Schedule 3: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Avenues E. between 7th and 10th Streets E.

Pursuant to ARM 17.40.318, the Department has concluded that the proposed project meets the Categorical Exclusion criteria of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). The Categorical Exclusion may be revoked if the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the planning documents, a new or modified application is submitted, new evidence demonstrates serious local or environmental issues exist, or state, local, tribal, or federal laws are violated.

The documentation for the Categorical Exclusion is available for public review at <u>https://deq.mt.gov/public/publicnotice</u> and at the following locations:

Department of Environmental Quality State Revolving Fund Loan Program 2401 Colonial Drive Helena, MT 59601

City of Kalispell 201 1st Avenue East Kalispell, MT 59901

Sincerely,

Sandie Koenig, PE DWSRF Program Manager Engineering Bureau Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Potential Contaminant Source Review



7/9/2025, 7:58:31 AM





Montana State Library, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US

CHAPTER IV - ATTACHMENT A DOCUMENTATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION CHECKLIST

Project Name / Brief Description:

| Project Number: | |
|-----------------|--|
| Date: | |
| Preparer: | |

The Department action under Title 75, chapter 5, part 11 and or chapter 6, part 1 or 2, MCA, is excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) if the application for department review is for any of the following projects:

(a) Projects relating to existing infrastructure systems such as sewer systems, drinking water supply systems, and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems that involve:

[Answer <u>yes</u> or <u>no</u>. If all answers "<u>no</u>", an EA or EIS must be completed. If any answer is <u>yes</u>, skip to (b).]

- 1. minor upgrading; Yes No
- 2. minor expansion of system capacity; Yes No

3. rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components;

Yes No

4. construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities; or

Yes No

5. projects in unsewered communities involving the replacement existing on-site systems, provided that the new on-site systems do not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharges or in loadings of pollutants from existing sources, and do not relocate existing discharges.

Yes No

(b) A categorical exclusion may <u>not</u> be granted for a department action if:

[Answer <u>yes</u> or <u>no</u>. If all answers "<u>no</u>", skip to (c). If any answer is <u>yes</u>, an EA or EIS must be completed.]

6. the action would authorize facilities that will provide a new discharge or relocate an existing discharge to ground or surface waters;

Yes No

7. the action would result in an increase above permit levels established for the facility under the Montana pollutant discharge elimination system or Montana ground water pollution control system for either volume of discharge or loading rate of pollutants to receiving waters;

Yes No

8. the action would authorize facilities that will provide capacity to serve a population at least 30% greater than the existing population;

Yes No

9. the action is not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy; Yes No

10. the action directly or indirectly involves or relates to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development; Yes No

11. the department has received information indicating that public controversy exists over the project's potential effects on the quality of the human environment; Yes No

12. the department determines that the proposed project that is the subject of the state action shows some potential for causing a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, based on ARM 17.4.608, or might possibly affect:

(i) sensitive environmental or cultural resource areas; or

(ii) endangered or threatened species and their critical habitats. Yes No

(c) If the proposed project meets the conditions above in determining use of a CATEX, the reviewer will then complete items 13 - 17 as follows:

[Once all steps 1-17 are complete, reviewer shall sign and date at bottom. If revocation becomes necessary, reviewer shall initiate an EA or EIS as appropriate.]

| 13. Project meets the above Categorical Exclusion criteria. | |
|---|--|
| 14. DEQ determination of Categorical Exclusion. | |
| 15. DEQ distributes the Notice of Determination. | |
| 16. Notice of Publication and cover letter (containing revocation language below) is delivered to recipient. | |
| 17. Notice of Publication published in local newspaper by recipient and evidence of publication provided to reviewer. | |

(d) The department may revoke a categorical exclusion if:

[Only complete the steps below 18 – 21 if revocation of a previously implemented CATEX becomes necessary.]

18. the project is not initiated within the time period specified in the facility plan, or a new or modified application is submitted;

19. the proposed action no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion because of changes in the proposed action;

20. new evidence demonstrates that serious local or environmental issues exist; or

21. state, local, tribal, or federal laws may be violated.

Rebecca <u>Beam</u> STATE PREPARER

STATE REVIEWER

7/9/25

COMPLETION DATE