



NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
HARRISON WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
WPCSRF #: C304263
Phase 1 Wastewater System Improvements
October 9, 2025

The Harrison Water and Sewer District, through a 2024 Wastewater System Improvements Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), analyzed the condition of its wastewater collection and treatment system components. The PER identified that high groundwater in the area causes extreme inflow and infiltration I&I into the sewer collection system, which results in excessive pumping at the lift station, increased flow and reduced detention time at the lagoons, and increased land application requirements. The PER identified the need for lift station upgrades, sludge removal in lagoon Cell #1, repair or replacement of worn lagoon liners, increasing lagoon capacity, increasing irrigation area, and irrigation system upgrades. The 2024 PER recommended that the project be separated into two phases. This Categorical Exclusion is being issued to address and publicly notice the Phase 1 work. The project comprises rehabilitation of one manhole; rehabilitation of 460 feet of sewer main with Cured-In-Place Pipe (CIPP); one pipe spot repair prior to CIPP; replacement of two sewer service connections; cleaning, jetting, and camera inspection of 725 feet of sewer mains; rehabilitation and sealing of the lift station wet well; and installation of a flow meter and new valving in the lift station enclosure. A future Phase 2 project will consist of upgrades to the wastewater treatment lagoons and irrigation system. The project will protect public health, safety, and the environment by ensuring safe and reliable conveyance of wastewater to the treatment lagoons.

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 facility plan, 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.

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

Department of Environmental Quality
State Revolving Fund Loan Program
2401 Colonial Drive
Helena, MT 59601
Peter.behrends2@mt.gov

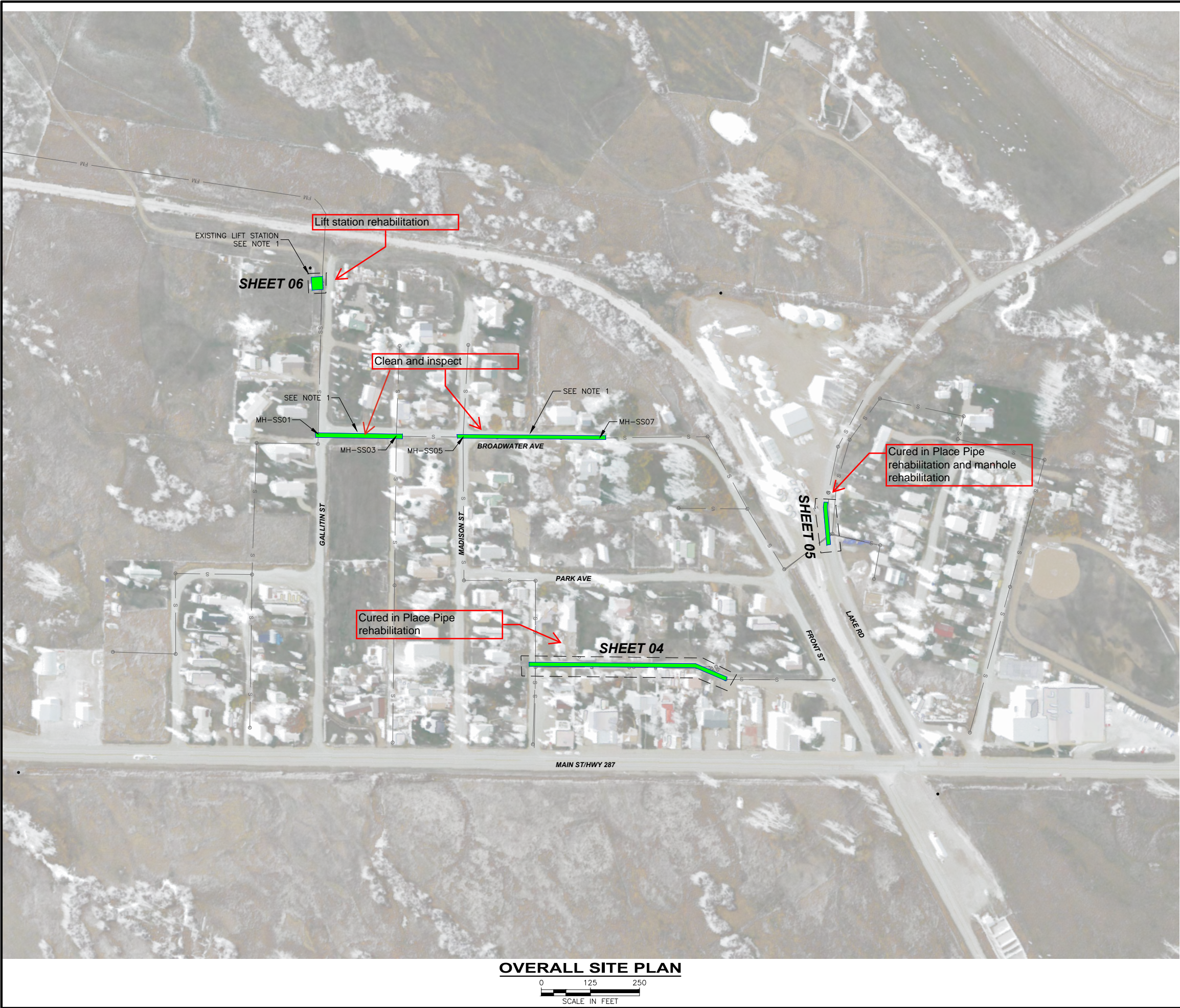
Harrison Water and Sewer District
PO Box 24
Harrison, MT 59735
103 W Wallace St
Virginia City, MT 59755

Sincerely,

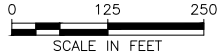
A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael Abrahamson", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael Abrahamson, PE
Section Supervisor
Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund Program
Engineering Bureau, Water Quality Division
Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Y:\Shared\Helena Projects\1-22161-Harrison WSD On-Call\TO 2 - Phase 1\WW\CADD 1-22161-T02\Sheets\1-22161-T02-03-Overall Plan.dwg



OVERALL SITE PLAN



NOTES:

1. CONTRACTOR TO CLEAN, JET, AND CCTV INSPECT APPROXIMATELY 550 LF OF SEWER MAIN BETWEEN MANHOLES ON BROADWATER AVENUE UNDER BID ITEM 105. IF, DURING INSPECTION, IT IS DETERMINED THAT SPOT REPAIRS, SERVICE REPLACEMENTS, OR CIPP REHABILITATION ARE NECESSARY BY THE OWNER AND ENGINEER, THE OWNER, ENGINEER, AND CONTRACTOR SHALL INITIATE A CHANGE ORDER TO COMPLETE THE WORK UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT USING UNIT PRICES PROVIDED IN THE BASE BID."

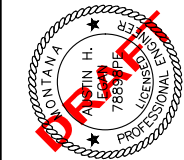


HARRISON WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
PHASE 1 WASTEWATER SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS
SITE PLAN

SHEET NO.

03

OF 7



NO.	REVISION DESCRIPTION	BY	DATE
1	PROJECT: 1-22161-T02		
2	DESIGNED: AE		
3	DRAWN: EF		
4	CHECKED: MM		
5	APPROVED: AE		
6	DATE: SEPTEMBER 2025		

CHAPTER III – ATTACHMENT D

DOCUMENTATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION CHECKLIST

Project Name: Harrison Phase 1 Wastewater Improvements

Project Number: C304263

Date: September 30, 2025

Preparer: Pete Behrends, PE

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

- yes 1. minor upgrading;
- no 2. minor expansion of system capacity;
- yes 3. rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components;
- no 4. construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities; or
- no 5. projects in unsewered communities involving the replacement of 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.

(b) A categorical exclusion may NOT be granted for a department action if:

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

- no 6. the action would authorize facilities that will provide a new discharge or relocate an existing discharge to ground or surface waters;
- 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;
- no 8. the action would authorize facilities that will provide capacity to serve a population at least 30% greater than the existing population;
- no 9. the action is not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy;
- no 10. the action directly or indirectly involves or relates to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development;

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;

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.

(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.]

yes 13. Project meets the above Categorical Exclusion criteria.

yes 14. DEQ determination of Categorical Exclusion.

pending 15. DEQ distributes the Notice of Determination.

pending 16. Notice of Publication and cover letter (containing revocation language below) is delivered to recipient.

pending 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.

PBehrend
STATE PREPARER

Mark A. L...
STATE REVIEWER

9/30/2025
COMPLETION DATE