

STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED DRINKING WATER PROJECT FOR HUERFANO COUNTY (GARDNER WATER AND SANITATION PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT)

The Water Quality Control Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has conducted a review of the proposed drinking water project for Huerfano County (Gardner Water and Sanitation Public Improvement District) in accordance with EPA and the State of Colorado procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR Part 6) and the State of Colorado NEPA-like policy (SRF Operating Agreement). The State has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the State is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the above stated policies.

Project Description:

The proposed project is to rehabilitate the existing well houses, construct a new storage tank, and replace the existing water meters. The project will be funded by a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$593,000. Upon closing of the loan, 100% of the principal amount will be forgiven, and will not increase user rates.

The project by design would not increase the drinking water demand for the planning area.

Criteria for Granting a Categorical Exclusion under 40 CFR parts 6.107 and 6.505

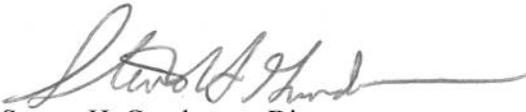
The action proposed will ensure compliance with current and future water treatment standards. The following criteria condition the allowance of the categorical exclusion for the proposed action:

- Minor rehabilitation of existing facilities;
- Functional replacement of equipment;
- Construction of additional facilities adjacent to existing facilities which do not affect the degree or capacity of treatment by more than 30 percent of existing population.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division, in Denver, Colorado and is available for public scrutiny upon request. Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to:

Scott Garnearz, Project Manager
Grants and Loans Unit
Water Quality Control Division
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80246

Dated this 19th day of December, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven H. Gunderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven H. Gunderson, Director
Water Quality Control Division