

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 THE TOWN OF BLANCA

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 the **Town of Blanca** 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 construct a new storage tank adjacent to the existing tank, refitting the existing water supply well, and installing additional piping for improved transmission system operation. The project will be funded by a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$488,050 at 0% for 30 years. The project will increase the user rates by approximately \$8.80 per month.

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

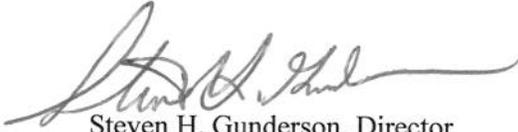
The action proposed will ensure compliance with current and future water treatment standards. The following criteria condition the allowance of the categorical exclusion for the proposed action:

- Construction of additional facilities adjacent to existing facilities which do not affect the degree or capacity of treatment by more than 30 percent of the existing population;
- Distribution line replacement
- Minor upgrade and expansion of existing water systems in communities of 10,000 population or less

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:

Erick Worker, Project Manager
Financial Solutions Unit
Water Quality Control Division
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80246

Dated this 21st day of June, 2011.

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