

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor
Christopher E. Urbina, MD, MPH
Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer

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

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Services Division
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530 8100 Lowry Blvd.
Phone (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80230-6928
Located in Glendale, Colorado (303) 692-3090

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED DRINKING WATER PROJECT FOR THE TOWN OF MERINO

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 Merino 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 project is to add on to the water treatment plant for an ion exchange system, construct a new water storage tank, add piping to the original water storage tank for chlorine contact time, and install water meters at all the users in the town. The project will be funded by a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$1,110,000 at 1% for 30 years. At loan closing the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority will forgive \$1,000,000 of the principal amount of the loan. The project will increase the user rates by \$2.75 per month.

The project by design will 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;
- The minor upgrade and expansion of the existing water system in a community 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:

Daniel Simpson, 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 13th day of November, 2012.


Steven H. Gunderson, Director
Water Quality Control Division