

City of Box Elder
C461003-05

DATE _____

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS

As required by guidelines for the preparation of environmental impact statements, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed Clean Water State Revolving Fund action below:

PROJECT: 14/16 Sanitary Sewer System Improv Phase 2
LOCATION: Box Elder, South Dakota
PROJECT NUMBER: C461003-05
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST/SRF SHARE: \$14,344,000/\$12,344,000

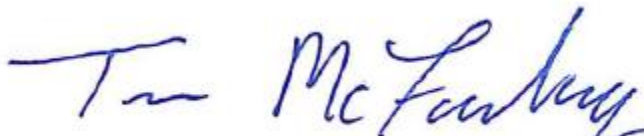
The city of Box Elder is installing sewer main in the Highway 14/16 area. This area has been identified as needing infrastructure improvements to accommodate recent population growth in Box Elder. Phase 2 will start at Cottonwood Drive and run to the wastewater treatment plant, replacing existing 10-inch sewer main with approximately 15,500 feet of 30- and 36-inch sanitary sewer main. The project will also include manholes and appurtenances along the proposed route.

On March 27, 2025, the Board of Water and Natural Resources awarded the city of Box Elder a \$12,344,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan for this project. The loan has a rate of 3.5 percent with a term of 30 years. At the time of application Box Elder sewer rates were \$65.90 per month based on 5,000 gallons of water usage. The Clean Water SRF loan will be repaid with a wastewater surcharge or approximately \$20.10 per customer per month. In addition, Box Elder received a \$2,000,000 Consolidated Water Facilities Funding Program (CWFCP) grant to fund this project.

The project will not affect any historical or archaeological resources as determined by a Cultural Resources Inventory Survey of the project area. In the event of an archaeological or historical resource being unearthed during construction, work will be stopped, and the State Historic Preservation Office will be notified. The project should have no direct or indirect adverse effects on plant life or wildlife. The improvements, if necessary, will be flood proofed to above the 100-year base flood elevation. The proposed project will not adversely affect wetlands. The United States Department of Agriculture determined that there will be no significant impact on farmland of statewide importance in Pennington or Meade Counties, and the United States Department of Agriculture determined that no further alternatives need be considered.

The review process did not indicate that significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made. This action is taken on the basis of a careful review of the engineering report, environmental information documents, and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR), Division of Financial and Technical Assistance, Pierre, South Dakota, and are available for public scrutiny at the Box Elder city office in Box Elder, South Dakota.

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision may be submitted for consideration by DANR to DANRmail@state.sd.us. After evaluating the comments received, the Department will make a final decision; however, no final administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina McFarling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Tina McFarling, Program Administrator
Environmental Funding Program

Published once at an approximate cost of \$ _____