

State of Vermont
Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion

Bennington Water Department, WSID #5016
Bennington, VT
Monument Ave. Remedial Expansion, Contract 1
DWSRF Loan RF3-559

In accordance with Section VII of the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for projects funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program, the Bennington Water Department, located in Bennington, VT has requested its proposed Monument Ave. Remedial Expansion Project be evaluated for eligibility for a categorical exclusion exempting the project from detailed environmental procedures required for projects having a significant environmental impact.

This project involves the construction of water main line in Bennington, Vermont to address PFAS contamination of existing wells. Water main will be constructed along Monument Ave., Vermont Route 7, Meadowbrook Drive, Southshire Drive, North Terrace Drive, South Terrace Drive, and Hickory Hill Road.

The project involves mitigation measures, detailed in the [Environmental Information Document](#) (EID), which the owner has agreed to implement as part of their federal funding.

Our consideration of Bennington Water Department's request included reviewing the EID completed and submitted by the consultant, MSK Engineers. At the completion of this independent evaluation, the Department has determined the project meets the criteria for receiving a Categorical Exclusion. The project will correct water system deficiencies and does not meet any of the criteria resulting in denial of an Exclusion. Should the proposed work be altered to expand beyond the current scope of work and/or Area of Potential Effect, further review will be required due to potential cultural sensitivity of undisturbed areas. The Bennington Water Department and all contractors on their behalf are [directed](#) to follow the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians Policy for [Treatment and Disposition of Human Remains and Cultural Items That May be Discovered Inadvertently During Planned Activities](#).

Further information on the project and this determination are available for inspection by contacting the DWSRF Program at (802) 585-4904. In addition to the applicant, a copy of this determination will be sent to a list of stakeholders and posted on the Water Infrastructure Financing Program's [Environmental Review Determination Notice](#) page.

Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
Misty Sinsigalli, Commissioner

Signed by:

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Emily Bird, Director
Water Investment Division

Dated 4/24/2026

Documents Needed For Categorical Exclusion

1. **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 4/7/2026, by Nicholas Ratzer, of MSK Engineers.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=219454&DVID=0>
2. **Environmental Information Document Appendices**, MSK Engineers.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=219422&DVID=0>
3. **Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians Policy for Treatment and Disposition of Human Remains and Cultural Items That May be Discovered Inadvertently during Planned Activities.**
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=214527&DVID=0>
4. **Environmental Review Determination Notice Page**, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>.

Mitigation Measures:

1. **Historic Preservation:** Give due attention to the incidental or routine movement of heavy machinery both inside and outside the stated area of potential effects (APE) that may cause unintended or inadvertent impacts to cultural resources. If previously undocumented archaeological resources are encountered, SHPO and the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) must be contacted promptly. Should the proposed work be altered to expand beyond the current scope of work and/or APE, SHPO and THPO must be notified. Additional investigation may be necessary and further mitigation measures may be required by VDHP/ THPO as part of the Section 106 consultation.
2. **Dust and Noise:** Practices to limit these impacts will be required, such as regular sweeping, erosion prevention and sediment control measures, or water application, and work will be limited to normal 7 am to 5 pm weekday working hours.
3. **Migratory Birds, Eagles, and Bats:** Any required tree removal will occur within the allowable time for tree removal between October 15 and April 15. Grubbing shall be limited to off bird breeding season.
4. **Transportation and Public Transit:** Prior to the beginning of construction, the Contractor will be required to provide notice to the local public transit agency, concerning the project schedule and potential impacts to any bus service or bus stops in the project area. The Contractor will be required to provide supplemental signage or temporarily relocate the bus stops as needed to maintain public transit service in this area.

cc:

Amy Galford, Drinking Water Project Lead, VT DEC

Sarah Bayer, Drinking Water SRF Project Developer, VT DEC

Nicholas Ratzer, MSK Engineers

Lynnette Claudon, PE, Water Investment Division, VT DEC

Cindy Parks, PE, Construction Engineer, VT-DEC-WID

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4/24/2026