



**CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

**TO:** All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies and Public Groups

In accordance with the Nebraska Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) environmental review process, which is based on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the proposed agency action below:

This information reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded wholly or in part through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, please provide them at this time. The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy and Environment (NDWEE) encourages public input in this decision-making process.

**CLEAN WATER SRF LOAN**

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	WWTF Cell #3 Complete Liner Replacement
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	City of Beaver City
<b>COUNTY:</b>	Furnas County
<b>POPULATION:</b>	513 (2024 Census)
<b>CWSRF PROJECT NUMBER:</b>	C318088
<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT:</b>	\$700,400
<b>PROPOSED CWSRF LOAN AMOUNT:</b>	\$700,400

The City of Beaver City has applied for funding, through the CWSRF program administered by the NDWEE, for removal and disposal of the existing WWTF #3 synthetic liner with replacement of a compacted clay liner, including dike repair in the southeast corner of Cell #3. The community was listed on the Planning List in the State Fiscal Year 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP) and ranked at 151 priority points.

The project consists of replacement of existing PVC liner, which appears to have reached its viable life. The current liner has a tear in it and the PVC is becoming brittle, making it a challenge to repair. The cost of a PVC repair was compared to the cost of a conventional clay liner, making the clay liner very affordable, economical and the clay liner will outlast the PVC.

The total cost for the proposed project is \$700,400. Based on supporting documentation on file with the NDWEE, this project was determined to be eligible for a 30-year loan with an annual interest rate of 0.75 percent and an annual administrative fee of 0.75 percent.

The City of Beaver City's sewer fees would be pledged to repay the CWSRF loan. For a typical residential connection, the current monthly rate is \$16.00 per month. The long-term average annual CWSRF Debt Service (including 10% coverage, and interest and admin payments) would be \$34,461.92. Based on 297 active service connections, sewer rates may need to be raised by an additional \$9.67 to address the new debt service.

### **Categorical Exclusion Justification for Clean Water Projects**

The completed project was reviewed for eligibility for a categorical exclusion from a National Environmental Policy Act review specified in 40 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 6.204. The project meets all criteria described in the above reference, and the Department has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that a Finding of No Significant Impact will not be prepared. Justification for categorical exclusion includes:

- The completed action is not known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts on the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time;
- The completed action is not known or expected to significantly affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat;
- The completed action is not known or expected to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric archeological or cultural value, including but not limited to, properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The completed action is not known or expected to significantly affect environmentally important natural resource areas as wetlands, prime farmland, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat;
- Based on a review of the available mapping, no portion of the project lies within the 100-year floodplain;
- The completed action is not known or expected to have a significant effect on the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population including altering the character of existing residential areas, or may not be consistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or federal land management plans;
- Based on review there are no new/relocated surface or groundwater discharges; the project is not being developed to provide capacity to service a population greater than 30% of that existing for the community; and it is supported by a State growth strategy. In addition, there will not be a substantial increase in volume/loading of pollutants to receiving streams; and
- The completed action is not known or expected to cause significant public controversy.

The NDWEE shall revoke the categorical exclusion and shall require a full environmental review if, subsequent to the granting of exclusion, the state determines that the completed project no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion due to changes in the completed project; or new evidence reveals that serious local or environmental issues exist; or federal, state, local or tribal laws are being violated.

This action is taken on the basis of careful review of the application and other supporting data, which are on file in the office of the NDWEE. These are available for public review upon request. Persons

having a comment on this categorical exclusion determination are encouraged to submit such comments directly to the NDWEE State Revolving Fund Program at [DWEE.SRF@nebraska.gov](mailto:DWEE.SRF@nebraska.gov).

Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

Sincerely,



Sarah Starostka,  
Administrator  
Planning and Aid Division

Attachments:      Distribution List  
                         Map

CATEX Distribution List  
City of Beaver City, Nebraska

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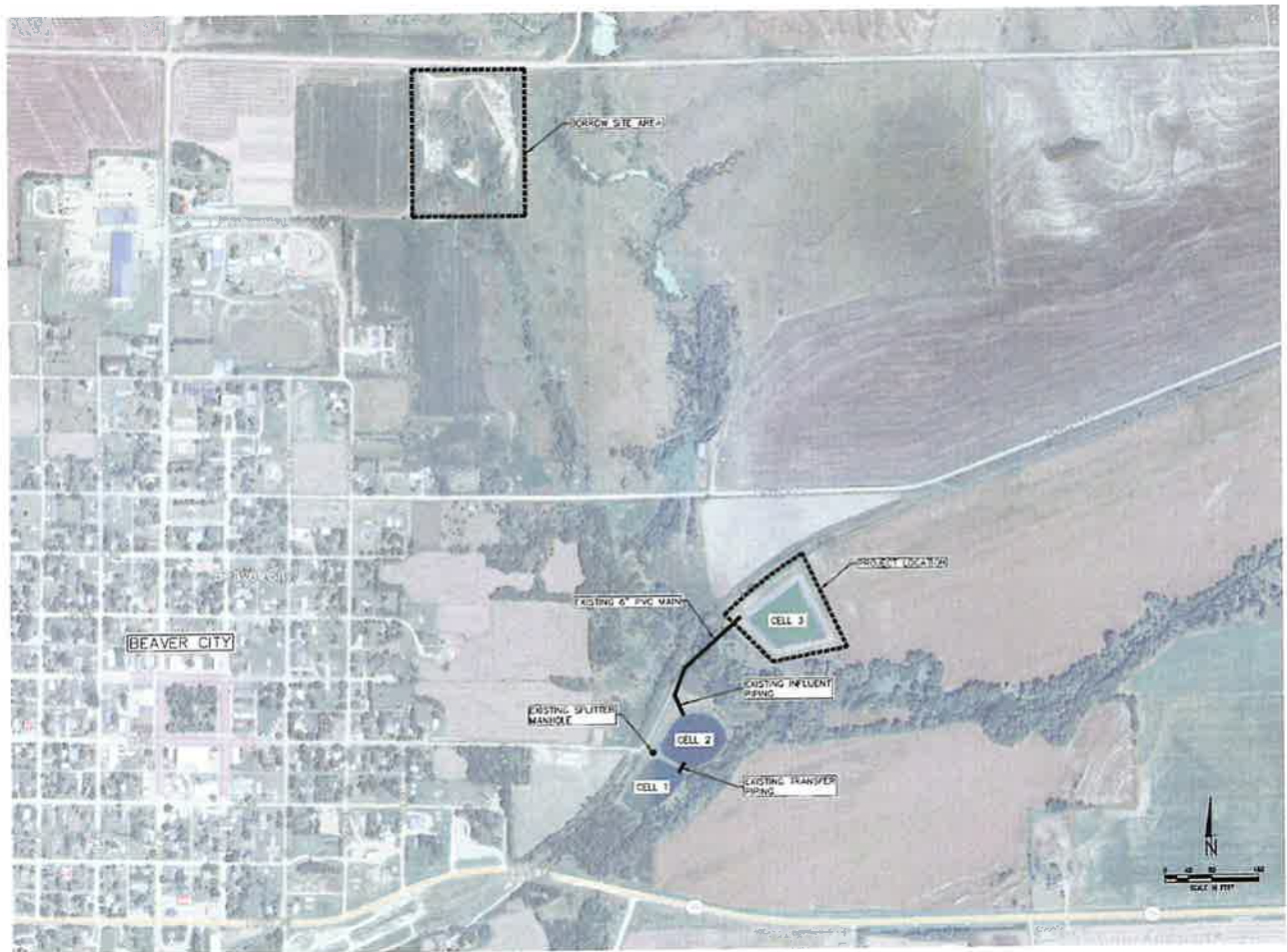
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LOCAL NEWSPAPER: THE TIMES TRIBUNE  
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Beaver City, NE 68926  
(Public Information Only not for Public Notice)



**Site of Proposed Project**