

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice: April 16, 2026

Name of Responsible Entity (RE): Jefferson County

Address: 102 S. Monroe St

City, State, Zip Code: Boulder, MT 59632

Telephone Number: (406) 225-4025

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Jefferson County.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 5, 2026, the Jefferson County will submit a request to the Montana Department of Commerce for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Public Facilities funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as Clancy Water and Sewer District Water Improvements.

The proposed Clancy Water System Improvements Project consists of the phased development of a centralized public water supply system to serve residents and users within the Clancy Water and Sewer District in Clancy, Jefferson County, Montana. The project includes development of new municipal groundwater sources and construction of associated treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution infrastructure.

The project will be located within the existing developed areas of Clancy and will utilize a combination of previously disturbed sites, existing public roadways, easement agreements, and utility rights-of-way. Project components are planned along and near South 1st Street, Clancy Creek Road, East Clancy Street, North Main Street, South Main Street, Cutoff Road, and Legal Tender Lane. The locations of all Phase 1 and Phase 2 improvements are depicted on the attached project location maps.

Phase 1 – Water Supply Development

Phase 1 of the project includes the drilling, construction, development, and testing of two new municipal groundwater wells to provide a safe and reliable potable water source for the community. These wells will be constructed in accordance with applicable Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirements and will serve as the primary and redundant water supply sources for the future public water system.

Phase 1 activities include:

- Drilling and completion of two groundwater supply wells
- Installation of well casing and grouting to protect groundwater quality
- Aquifer testing and water quality sampling
- Temporary disturbance associated with drilling equipment and site access

Phase 1 activities will be limited in duration and footprint and will occur on property where permanent easements are being secured by the Clancy Water and Sewer District.

Phase 2 – Water System Infrastructure

Phase 2 of the project includes construction of facilities necessary to distribute treated potable water throughout the community. Phase 2 improvements include:

- Construction of a wellhouse to house pumping equipment and system controls
- Installation of chlorine disinfection equipment to provide required primary disinfection
- Construction of a new water storage tank to provide system storage and operational reliability
- Installation of water transmission mains connecting the wells to the storage and distribution system
- Development of a water distribution system, including service connections and installation of water meters

Most Phase 2 infrastructure will be installed within existing roadways or utility corridors and will involve trenching, pipe installation, and restoration of disturbed surfaces to pre-construction conditions.

The project is planned as a phased implementation, with Phase 1 well development occurring first, followed by Phase 2 system construction once source capacity is established.

Following construction, the system will be owned, operated, and maintained by the Clancy Water and Sewer District as a regulated public water system. No change in land use is proposed beyond installation of essential utility infrastructure. The project does not include wastewater system improvements.

The proposed project will develop new groundwater supply wells and construct supporting water system infrastructure to establish a centralized public water supply for Clancy. All project components are located within or adjacent to existing development and utilize established transportation and utility corridors, minimizing disturbance to undeveloped lands and sensitive environmental resources.

Estimated funding:

- HUD CDBG Funding: \$450,000
- Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds): \$4,561,120

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Jefferson County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Jefferson County, 102 S. Monroe St, Boulder, MT 59632, and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M. to 12 P.M and 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. A copy of the ERR can also be reviewed and/or downloaded at clancyinfrastructure.com/download-project-documents/.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Jefferson County, Attention: Cory Kirsch, Commissioner, at CKirsch@jeffersoncounty-mt.gov or at the address listed above. All comments received by May 4, 2026, will be considered by Jefferson County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Jefferson County certifies to the Montana Department of Commerce that Cory Kirsch, in his capacity as Commissioner, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. Montana Department of Commerce's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Jefferson County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

Montana Department of Commerce will accept objections to its release of funds and Jefferson County's certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the

anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following basis:

1. The certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Jefferson County;
2. The Jefferson County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58;
3. The grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs, or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds; or
4. Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Section 58.76) and shall be addressed to:

Montana Department of Commerce
Community Development Division
301 S. Park
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620

Potential objectors should contact the Montana Department of Commerce to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Certifying Officer:

Cory Kirsch, Commissioner

Jefferson County