

## **Proposal for Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Attn: CECW-CE (Lisa Kiefel)  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

**Project: Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements Project  
Seeley Lake Missoula County Sewer District  
Missoula County, Montana**

### **Project Sponsor:**

Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District  
PO Box 403  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

### **Primary Project Sponsor Contact:**

Amy Rose, Acting District Manager  
Missoula County Public Works  
6089 Training Drive, Missoula, MT 59808  
(406) 258-3723  
arose@co.missoula.mt.us

### **Introduction:**

The Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District received Section 595 funding, allocated to Montana projects, for the Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements Project as authorized by the Agreement dated July 2, 2010. Since that time the District has applied those funds to total design costs and met the non-Federal sponsor obligations and match requirements. This proposal therefore qualifies as a modification to an authorized USACE water resources development project.

The objective of the project reflects the requirements of the 595 program by addressing a known area experiencing related public and environmental health risks associated with a high density of septic influence to ground and surrounding surface waters in a rural community. The project modifications include construction of a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) treatment plant with groundwater infiltration and standard gravity and pressurized collection system. Connection of individual septic systems to the new centralized system will result in an overall improvement to water quality in Seeley Lake.

The significant obstacle to successful project completion is assembling a feasible funding package. The total cost for construction is well beyond the means of a community with a Median Household Income of approximately \$43,984, according to 2010 US Census data, a significant fraction of which is below the poverty line. The direct financial impact of the project is the responsibility of the 480 properties within the District boundary.

This project is currently in design, the treatment facility site is secured, and a groundwater discharge permit application is currently under review with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. The District anticipates final design and issuance of a discharge permit by Spring/Summer of 2015. At

that time, with complete funding commitments, this project will be ready to initiate the bid and construction plan.

Submitted, for your review, is a complete look at the supplementary project information required. Related exhibits are notated and attached. The District welcomes any follow up questions or requests for additional information.

**Supplementary Project Information:**

I. Non-Federal sponsors:

- 1) Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District, PO Box 403, Seeley Lake, MT 59868, collects annual assessments from all properties in the District as allowed under Montana Code Annotated. A portion of these assessments are held in reserve for local match.
  - 2) Missoula County, Board of County Commissioners, 199 W Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802, entered into a local agreement with the Seeley Lake Sewer District and committed a no-interest loan of \$110,000 along with technical and administrative support provided by the Missoula County Public Works department.
  - 3) State of Montana, Department of Commerce – Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP), PO Box 200523, Helena, MT 59620, awarded a \$750,000 grant to the Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District under program funding approved by the 2013 Montana Legislature.
  - 4) State of Montana, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program (RRGL), 1625 Eleventh Avenue, Helena, MT 59620, awarded a \$100,000 grant authorized by the 2005 Legislature. The grant was used for local match for preliminary engineering services. The District is also eligible to apply for up to a \$125,000 grant through the program in 2016.
  - 5) State of Montana, Department of Environmental Quality – State Revolving Fund Loan Program (SRF), PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, recognizes the Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements project on the Montana Water Pollution Control SRF priority projects list. The District is eligible to apply through the loan program for funds to be allocated as local match.
  - 6) Seeley Lake Community Foundation, PO Box 25, Seeley Lake, MT 59868, awarded a private grant of \$500,000 to the Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District in 2014 specifically to provide local match to the Wastewater Improvements Project.
- II. This proposal is a modification to an authorized USACE project: Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District's Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements Project as outlined under the 2010 Agreement for Section 595 funding.
- III. The project purpose under this modification proposal is to construct the centralized wastewater collection and treatment system for the community of Seeley Lake. Wastewater treatment in Seeley Lake currently consists of a high density of individual on-site septic tanks and drainfields, seepage pits, privy vaults, car bodies, and other inappropriate "treatment" methods which are

contributing to groundwater degradation. The objective of the proposed project is to significantly reduce septic use and subsequent influence and impairment to ground and surface waters. The overall project will construct a mechanized biological nutrient removal wastewater treatment facility (SBR) and collection system to connect homes and businesses.

- IV. The 2014 qualified estimate is \$9.5 million. Estimate includes construction of the wastewater treatment facility and the first phase of the collections system which will serve the highest concentration of homes and businesses.
- V. The economic viability of the Seeley Lake community is dependent on a healthy environment. The local economy benefits significantly from recreation based tourism and wildlife management. A clean and healthy watershed protects and supports local businesses and agencies, promotes smart development in the area, and positively affects property values. Additional monetary benefits of the project depend on the final funding package provided to the District. The Seeley Lake Missoula County Sewer District represents a low income community as defined by the MHI in the 2010 US Census. The potential benefits with a complete funding package based on the preferred scenario include: an affordable annual assessment to each rate payer which relieves financial burden to the property owners; reducing or eliminating higher future costs either for replacement Type II septic systems as individual systems fail or inflation costs for construction and O&M if the project is delayed. Central sewer service offers direct enhancements and protection for the economic stability and vitality of the community.

Measurable non-monetary benefits include reductions in public and environmental health risks. The project benefits human health and safety by reducing septic influence to groundwater, preventing violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and further impairment to surrounding surface waters which are also designated for recreational use and wildlife habitat. The District actively engages in nutrient testing and long term evaluation of monitoring wells in the community. Their efforts are supported by additional monitoring conducted by the Clearwater Resource Council. Monitoring initiatives will continue during and after project construction.

- VI. Local and state support for the project includes the Missoula County Board of Commissioners, Missoula City-County Health Department, MT Department of Environmental Quality, MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Seeley Lake Water District, Seeley Lake Community Foundation, and the Clearwater Resource Council. These entities actively support the project through public participation, administrative and operational contributions, and funding commitments. The Sewer District also holds regular public meetings, on no less than an annual basis, and accumulated numerous letters of support from individuals within the District and in the greater Seeley Lake community, Montana legislative representatives, and the Congressional delegation. Copies of letters of support have been compiled for other funding applications and copies are available upon request.
- VII. Non-Federal interests ability to provide required cost share:
  - 1) The Seeley Lake Sewer District collects annual assessments from all property owners within the legal District boundary. These assessments provide the administrative fiscal budget under which they allocate reserves to be held for match requirements. These funds are regulated under the

provisions of Montana Code Annotated governing administration of a sewer district; they are adopted by resolution; and copies of the District's FY14 financials are attached for reference (A).

- 2) Missoula County has an existing loan agreement with the Seeley Lake Sewer District to provide \$110,000, interest free, toward local match. Missoula County is financially stable and capable of upholding the fiduciary responsibility of the agreement. The latest CAFR for Missoula County is available for review at <http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/accounting/FY13CAFR/index.htm>.
- 3) State of Montana, Department of Commerce, Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) awarded a construction grant of \$750,000 to the Seeley Lake Sewer District in the 2013 Legislature. The grant agreement is pending submission of the final financing package for the project. The program funding is secured by the State of Montana.
- 4) State of Montana, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program (RRGL) previously awarded the Seeley Lake Sewer District a \$100,000 grant for project design. The funds are expended and the grant closed. The Sewer District is eligible to apply for future funding under the program. Program funding is allocated by the Montana Legislature and secured by the State of Montana.
- 5) The Seeley Lake Sewer District project is on the Montana Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund Program priority projects List. State of Montana, Department of Environmental Quality, State Revolving Fund Loan Program (SRF) acknowledges the project as eligible for funding under their administration. A funding agreement, consisting of loan terms for the project, is dependent on the final financing package in order to determine the allowable portion. Loan funds under this program are secured by the State of Montana.
- 6) The Seeley Lake Community Foundation committed \$500,000 from a private endowment grant to the Seeley Lake Sewer District. The grant was transferred to a Seeley Lake Sewer District account and is available for match on a cash basis.

VIII. Statements of support are attached (B).

The Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District respectfully requests due consideration for this qualified project modification proposal under the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 allocation to Montana projects. A grant of this nature is a necessity for successful project completion in a low income community facing the burden of either funding the project or struggling under the economic, environmental, and public health hardships of impaired water quality. This proposal demonstrates project support, the ability to provide local match requirements, and the capacity to be construction ready in a desirable time frame given a complete funding package. Please contact us if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Project: Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements Project  
Seeley Lake Missoula County Sewer District  
Missoula County, Montana**

**Exhibit A: Seeley Lake Sewer District Financial Statements**

15



RESOLUTION NO. 08132014

SETTING ASSESSMENTS – SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Seeley Lake Sewer District (the “Board”) adopted a fiscal year budget for the purpose of setting assessments to fund District operations and necessary studies and planning for the District for Fiscal Year 2015, and

WHEREAS, the Board heard management recommendation to sustain annual assessment methods without change; and

WHEREAS, after giving notice as required by MCA 7-13-2307, the Board held a public hearing Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of accepting public comment on keeping the annual assessment without change; and

WHEREAS, upon taking public testimony, the Board heard all comments, both written and verbal; and

WHEREAS, the Board determined that the assessment methods would provide sufficient revenues for fiscal year 2015, in the amount of approximately \$47,620.00;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the Secretary is directed to coordinate the placement of assessment on the property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2015 as follows:

- a. Flat Fee Dwelling Unit Assessment. Each lot, tract or parcel of land in the District that has a dwelling unit shall be assessed a flat fee of \$79.85, calculated as that part of 54% of the Administrative Fee (\$25,631.85) attributed to each actual lot, tract or parcel having a dwelling unit.
- b. Actual Area Assessment. Each lot, tract or parcel of land without a dwelling unit in the District shall be assessed for that part of the Administrative Fee (\$21,988.15) that the actual area of such lot, tract or parcel bears to the total actual area of all lots, tracts or parcels of land in the District. The total actual area of the District to be assessed is 30,220,221.7 square feet. The total actual area of each lot, tract or parcel without a dwelling unit is 13,891,932 square feet. The amount of 46% of the Administrative Fee assessed against each lot, tract or parcel of the District is \$0.0015828 per square foot of actual area

DATED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August 2014

  
President

Attest:

  
Secretary Amy R. Rose, Acting District Mgr.

**Seeley Lake Sewer District**

**FY15 Budget**

**EXPENDITURES**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>
SLSD	Audit	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
SLSD	Bookkeeping	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
SLSD	Dues & Subscriptions	\$300.00	\$300.00
SLSD	Equipment	\$470.00	\$470.00
SLSD	Income Survey	\$0.00	\$0.00
SLSD	Insurance-Liability	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
SLSD	Licenses & Fees	\$250.00	\$250.00
SLSD	Meals, etc.	\$250.00	\$250.00
SLSD	Office Supplies	\$900.00	\$900.00
SLSD	Postage	\$500.00	\$500.00
SLSD	Public Relations	\$750.00	\$750.00
SLSD	Secretary	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
SLSD	Consultant	\$0.00	\$0.00
SLSD	Training	\$600.00	\$600.00
SLSD	Travel	\$600.00	\$600.00
SLSD	Water Testing	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
SLSD	Well/Lake Monitoring	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
SLSD	Reserve	<u>\$29,000.00</u>	<u>\$29,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b><u>\$47,620.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$47,620.00</u></b>
SLSD	Capital - Engineering		
	GWE Amendment No. 1	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
SLSD	Capital - Engineering		
	GWE Amendment No. 2	<u>\$300,000.00</u>	<u>\$420,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>		<b><u>\$312,000.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$420,000.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL SLSD EXPENSES</b>		<b><u>\$359,620.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$467,620.00</u></b>

Seeley Lake Sewer District

FY15 Budget

REVENUE

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>
Operations	Administrative Fee	<u>\$47,620.00</u>	<u>\$47,620.00</u>
Capital	WRDA	\$224,428.26	\$202,229.00
Capital	STAG	\$667,576.63	\$667,576.63
Capital	RRGL	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital	LOR	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Capital	Missoula County Loan	<u>\$88,088.00</u>	<u>\$88,088.00</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<u><u>\$1,027,712.89</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,505,513.63</u></u>

1:35 PM  
08/28/14  
Accrual Basis

**Seeley Lake - Missoula County Sewer District**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**July 2013 through June 2014**

	<u>Jul '13 - Jun 14</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
4010 · Fee Assessment	40,180.39
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>40,180.39</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	40,180.39
<b>Expense</b>	
Dues & Subscriptions	282.50
Licenses & Fees	112.00
Postage	221.56
6000 · Contract Labor	
6110 · Secretary	1,751.25
6115 · Water Testing	<u>455.00</u>
<b>Total 6000 · Contract Labor</b>	2,206.25
6180 · Insurance Liability	1,412.00
6290 · Well/Lake Monitoring	3,294.50
6650 · Accounting	
6652 · Bookkeeping Services	<u>1,545.00</u>
<b>Total 6650 · Accounting</b>	1,545.00
6670 · Public Relations	<u>124.85</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>9,198.66</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	30,981.73
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	
4130 · Interest Allocation -- County	299.54
7010 · Interest Income -- FVBank	183.98
7050 · Grant -- WRDA	22,199.26
7054 · Grant -- Foundation	<u>500,000.00</u>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>522,682.78</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>522,682.78</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>553,664.51</u></u>

**Seeley Lake - Missoula County Sewer District**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of June 30, 2014

	Jun 30, 14
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
1000 · FVBank Checking	510,198.56
1001 · Missoula County Account	165,231.84
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>675,430.40</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	675,430.40
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
<b>1500 · Construction In Progress</b>	
1501 · Const. in Prog - Fees	6,823.97
1503 · Grant Administration	10,487.36
<b>1504 · Const. in Prog - Engineering</b>	
1507 · Study & Report Phase	30,000.00
1508 · Coordinate with District	2,111.13
1509 · Environmental Analysis & Reivew	6,506.40
1510 · USFS Land Acquisition	11,522.60
1511 · Groundwater Discharge Permit.	99,957.17
1512 · Public Meeting	2,362.80
1513 · Treatment and Collection System	88,825.09
1514 · TSEP Grant Application	6,000.00
1515 · DNRC Site	
1516 · Groundwater Discharge Permit	<u>20,321.05</u>
<b>Total 1515 · DNRC Site</b>	20,321.05
1518 · Coordinate w/District & Attend	890.00
1519 · Powell County Land Use Permit	4,119.25
1520 · DNRC Land Application Assist.	1,492.50
1522 · Environmental Analysis & Report	11,006.40
1523 · Preliminary Design	<u>18,585.50</u>
<b>Total 1504 · Const. in Prog - Engineering</b>	303,699.89
1500 · Construction In Progress - Other	<u>105,879.71</u>
<b>Total 1500 · Construction In Progress</b>	<u>426,890.93</u>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	426,890.93
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>1,102,321.33</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
2004 · Accounts Payable	27,897.25
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<u>27,897.25</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>27,897.25</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	27,897.25
<b>Equity</b>	
3001 · Retained Earnings	520,759.57
Net Income	553,664.51
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>1,074,424.08</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>1,102,321.33</u></u>

**Project: Seeley Lake Wastewater Improvements Project  
Seeley Lake Missoula County Sewer District  
Missoula County, Montana**

**Exhibit B: Statements of Support**



# SEELEY LAKE SEWER

PO Box 403  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

November 20, 2014

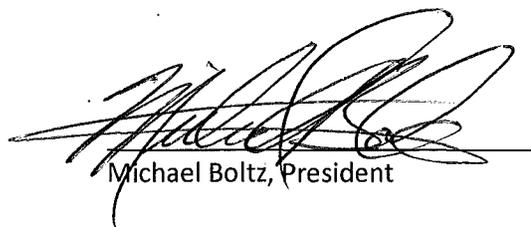
To Whom It May Concern:

The Seeley Lake Sewer District was formed in 1992 to address issues related to a high density of septic tanks and drainfields in the Seeley Lake community. Water monitoring reflects high nitrate levels commonly associated with septic influence and poses concerns for water quality both in ground and neighboring surface waters. The District is committed to addressing the public health and environmental risks associated with impaired water quality, and we have a responsibility to develop a feasible project and funding package.

The project, consisting of design, construction, and startup of a comprehensive wastewater collection and treatment facility, was previously authorized by USACE for WRDA funding. We continue to support this project and commit the reserve funds from current and future fiscal budgets of the Seeley Lake Sewer District to meet non-Federal match requirements. A copy of the current fiscal year 2015 budget is enclosed demonstrating the reserve commitment.

We appreciate your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Boltz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Boltz, President



BCC 2014-133  
November 5, 2014

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

To Whom It May Concern:

We lend our support to the Seeley Lake Sewer District and their effort to secure funding for the development of a comprehensive wastewater collection and treatment facility. Seeley Lake currently has no centralized sewage treatment and relies on individual septic systems and drainfields. Water sampling reveals significantly high nitrate levels which are commonly associated with septic pollution both in personal wells and around the lake.

We believe it is important to address impaired water quality in our communities and have demonstrated this as a signatory on the Voluntary Nutrient Reduction Program. Clean, safe water is a basic necessity that all citizens deserve. The issues existing in the Seeley Lake area present increasing risks and impacts to the health of the community.

Missoula County is committed to helping the Seeley Lake Sewer District in this endeavor. An Interlocal Agreement between Missoula County and the Seeley Lake Sewer District provides office space, general management under the Public Works department, and financial support of an \$110,000 no-interest loan to assist with non-Federal match requirements. This project will significantly contribute to overall improvement of water quality and support economic development in the area. We respectfully request your attention and hope you will look favorably in consideration for this project.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Curtiss, Chair

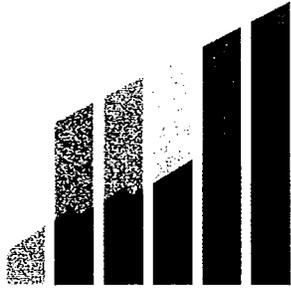
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Carey, Commissioner

**NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michele Landquist, Commissioner

BCC/ppr

cc: Greg Robertson, Public Works Director  
Amy Rose, Public Works Assistant Director



**MONTANA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

May 9, 2013

Seeley Lake Sewer District  
President Glen Morin  
PO Box 403  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Dear President Morin:

RE: Notice of Grant Award  
Treasure State Endowment Program 2015 Project Grant Awards

Congratulations! On behalf of the Montana Department of Commerce, it is my pleasure to notify you that Governor Bullock signed into law House Bill 11 (HB 11) on May 6, 2013. HB 11 appropriates funds for the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) for the 2015 biennium for infrastructure projects.

The Seeley Lake Sewer District has been awarded \$750,000 in TSEP funds for the Wastewater System Improvements Project. While funds for your TSEP project grant will not be available for reimbursement until July 1, 2013, you may begin to incur reimbursable project costs as of May 6, 2013.

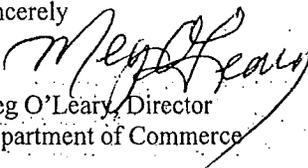
For a list of eligible project expenses, please review the 2013 Project Administration manual located at <http://comdev.mt.gov/TSEP/tseadminmanual.mcp.x>.

Please note that reimbursement of eligible costs is contingent on the satisfactory completion of all project start-up requirements as set forth in the Administration Manual. These include the submission of a finalized budget and implementation schedule, obtaining firm commitment of other funding sources and executing a contract with the Department of Commerce. Once these requirements are met, you will receive notice that you may draw on the TSEP funds available for your project. If you fail to meet start-up requirements, execute a contract with the Department, or comply with the terms and conditions of the contract, any project costs incurred will be your sole responsibility.

All TSEP grantees will be contacted directly with more information in the upcoming weeks by the TSEP staff assigned to your project. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please call Ms. Kelly Lynch, Division Administrator of our Community Development Division at 406-841-2770 or email [DOCTSEP@mt.gov](mailto:DOCTSEP@mt.gov).

Again, congratulations. We look forward to working with you to successfully complete your project.

Sincerely

  
Meg O'Leary, Director  
Department of Commerce

MEG O'LEARY, DIRECTOR

STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION



STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

1625 ELEVENTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE: (406) 444-2074  
FAX: (406) 444-2684

PO BOX 201601  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1601

November 18, 2014

Seeley Lake Sewer District  
P.O. Box 403  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Subject: Prior and Future RRGL Grant Funding for the Seeley Lake Wastewater System

To Whom it May Concern:

The Seeley Lake Missoula County Sewer District applied for a \$100,000 grant through Montana's Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) Program in May, 2004. The scope of the proposed project was to design and construct a wastewater collection and treatment system for the community of Seeley Lake at a cost of approximately \$4.7 million. The RRGL grant was authorized by the 2005 legislature. Although the District was unable to obtain a complete funding package for the project, DNRC authorized the use of the RRGL grant for permitting and preliminary engineering activities. The grant was expended for those purposes and was closed out in September, 2012.

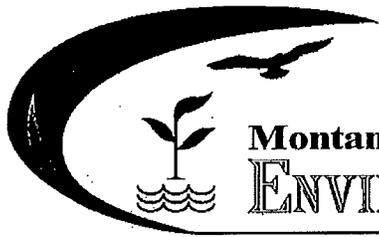
The RRGL Program accepts applications for renewable resource project grants up to \$125,000 in May of even-numbered years. The District is eligible to apply for another RRGL grant for its wastewater project in May, 2016. If successful, funding would become available on July 1, 2017.

Please refer to the Montana Department of Natural Resources website at [dnrc.mt.gov](http://dnrc.mt.gov) or contact the Resource Development Bureau for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Fischer".

Bob Fischer, P.E., Civil Engineer  
Resource Development Bureau



*"Healthy environment, healthy people"*

**Montana Department of  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Steve Bullock, Governor  
Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

P. O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • Website: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

To Whom it may concern:

The Montana Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund (WPCSRF) Program is very familiar with the water quality situation at Seeley Lake, having worked with the community for several years in an effort to address widespread nutrient loads to the groundwater from this unsewered community. The proposed project, which would provide a collection and central wastewater treatment system to the community, is currently ranked 82, out of 115 on the WPCSRF priority list. This relatively low ranking is more of an indication of the project's readiness to immediately proceed in to construction relative to other projects rather than an indication of the relative importance of the need for the project relative to other projects.

While we feel it is imprudent for DEQ to promote any one specific project over others, it is important to note that Seeley Lake is one of the largest unsewered communities in Montana and the use of substandard drainfield systems continues.

Paul Lavigne  
Montana WPSRF Program Manager



*Seeley Lake*  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

P.O. Box 25 ~ Seeley Lake, MT 59868

November 4, 2014

Letter of support and commitment of funds

To whom it may concern:

This letter expresses support from The Seeley Lake Community Foundation for Missoula County's efforts and Seeley Lake sewer District efforts to bring a centralized sewer to the unincorporated community of Seeley Lake, Montana. The Foundation provides grant funding in the amount of \$500,000 to assist in financing phase 1 of four phases of the project. Despite the need for the system, it is financially difficult to spread the significant expense over less than 500 properties, many of which house lower income families.

The Seeley Lake Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in the Seeley Lake community. A centralized sewer system will benefit the local economy which relies on a healthy environment. Clean water benefits people, wildlife and the watershed. The lack of a centralized sewer will continue to pose health risks to the community and environmental risks to the Clearwater watershed.

This project is fundamental to the physical, financial and social health of this community. The Sewer District was formed to address growing concern regarding high density and aging septic systems impacting ground and surface waters of Seeley Lake and adjacent water sources.

The Community Foundation is partnered with the Sewer District, Seeley Lake Water District, Missoula County Public Works, Clearwater Resource Council and the county health department in support of the sewer.

We support the Missoula County Public Works department feel this necessary infrastructure is critical to the health and well- being of the residents of Seeley Lake, Montana.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Williams'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mark Williams

Board President