

**Combined Notice
Finding of No Significant Impact and
Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds**

**Small Cities Development Program
State of Minnesota**

City of Akeley
P.O. Box 67, 25 Broadway St E Akeley, MN 56433

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

The purpose of this notice is to identify two separate but related actions to be taken by the City Council of the City of Akeley.

The above-named local unit of government proposes to request the Business and Community Development Division, Small Cities Development Program, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), to release Federal funds (see Notice of Intent to request Release of Funds, below) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (PL 98-181) for the following project:

Drinking water improvement project, including repairs to the Water Treatment Plant.

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and the above-named local unit of government has decided not to prepare an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190).

The reasons not to prepare such statement are as follows:

The project does not involve acquisition of undeveloped land, a change in land use, demolition, major rehabilitation or new construction.

Compliance with the following laws and authorities will take place once properties within the target area have been identified, but prior to the commitment of funds: historic properties, floodplain management/Flood Disaster Protection Act requirements (***if required***) and HUD environmental standards for hazards. Compliance documentation on the aforementioned laws and authorities will be in each individual property file, and copies will be available, once established, at Akeley City Hall, 25 Broadway St E Akeley, MN.

An Environmental Review Record respecting this project has been made by the above-named local unit of government that documents the environmental review of the project and fully sets forth the reasons why such statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, Akeley City Hall, 25 Broadway St E Akeley, MN between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Monday – Thursday and 8:00 am and noon on Friday.

No further environmental review of this project is to be conducted before the request for release of federal funds.

Public Comments on Finding

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the above-named local unit of government to the Akeley City Hall at 25 Broadway St E Akeley, MN on or before July 6, 2015. All comments received will be considered and the local unit of government named above will not request the release of federal funds or take any administrative action on this project before the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds

On or about July 7, the City of Akeley will request the Business and Community Development Division, Small Cities Development Program, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (PL 98-181) for the project described above.

The City of Akeley will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from DEED under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The above-named local unit of government is certifying to DEED that the City of Akeley, and Brian Hitchcock, in his official capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Akeley may use Block Grant funds and DEED and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Objections to State Release of Funds

DEED will accept objections to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the above certification for a period of **eighteen (18) days** following either the anticipated submission date (cited above) or DEED's actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only for any of the following reasons: (a) that the Certification was not executed by the certifying officer or other officer of the grantee approved by DEED; (b) that the Environmental Review Record prepared by City of Akeley for the project has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) that the City of Akeley has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) 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 procedure (24 CFR, Part 58) and may be addressed to Anita Gallentine, Small Cities Development Program, Business and Community Development Division, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, 1st National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1351.

Sebrina Hegg, City Clerk,
City of Akeley
P.O. Box 67, 25 Broadway St E Akeley, MN 56433