69th Legislature 2025 HB 923.1

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 923
2	INTRODUCED BY L. JONES, S. GIST, G. OBLANDER
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS FROM A
5	NONDEGRADATION AUTHORIZATION; DIRECTING THE AMENDMENT OF ARM 17.30.716; PROVIDING
6	AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES."
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8	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
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10	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Department to amend rule. By January 1, 2026, the department of
11	environmental quality shall amend ARM 17.30.716 to provide for a categorical exclusion from a nondegradation
12	authorization provided in 75-5-317 if a county commission demonstrates to the department that the commission
13	has established an area where:
14	(1) drinking water wells are prohibited; and
15	(2) the absorption trench is at least 1,000 feet from downstream high-quality surface waters.
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17	NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated \$10,000 from the general fund to
18	the department of environmental quality for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to amend the department's
19	rules pursuant to [section 1] and provide guidance for a categorical exclusion from a nondegradation
20	authorization.
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22	NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective dates. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is
23	effective on passage and approval.
24	(2) [Section 2] is effective July 1, 2025.
25	- END -

