

EPD Director's Office

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Atlanta, Georgia 30334
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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Fort Gaines WPCP Plant Replacement
City of Fort Gaines (Clay County)
GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-019

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned. The proposed project consists of the replacement of the existing Fort Gaines WPCP. The permitted capacity will not change as a result of the project. The project includes the construction of influent screening, grit removal, sequencing batch reactor (SBR) tanks, and UV disinfection. The existing package plant will be rehabilitated into a post-equalization basin. The project also includes SCADA upgrades. Additionally, the project includes the construction of a gravity bypass trunkline for the Jackson Street Lift Station that has been covered by a NONSI issued by USDA. Existing buildings will not be impacted as a result of this project. All construction activities will be located on City-owned property and/or existing right-of-ways. The project may be located in 100-year floodplain as indicated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. However, all proposed structures and mechanical equipment will be constructed or installed above flood elevation, as determined from one of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) methods. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: functional replacement of equipment, minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, and construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent to existing facilities that do not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing facility. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

This determination is effective immediately. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated. The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request.

If you have any questions about this determination, please contact August Lutkehus of my staff at august.lutkehus@dnr.ga.gov or (470) 524-0733.

Issuance Date: 08/23/2023



Jeffrey W. Cown, Director
Environmental Protection Division



City of Fort Gaines
Clay County, Georgia
GA0026191

Figure 1 - WPCP Project Location



1962 West Main Street
Dothan, AL 36301
(334) 677-9431
www.cdg.com



Scale Text:
1 in. = 0.60 miles

Drawn By: BRJ

Checked by: CDC

Date: March 2023

Ft Gaines WWTP

To be Rehabilitated
for Equalization

Drying Beds

Effluent Manhole

Existing Package Plant

Office and Blower Building

Influent Lift Station

To be Upgraded

Proposed Screening
and Grit Removal

Proposed 2 Basin
SBR and Digester

Proposed UV
Disinfection

Existing 10-inch
Gravity Line to Outfall

