

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Distribution System Improvements

City of Lincolnton

Lincoln County, Georgia

GA-0005516

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above subject project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP) for State American Rescue Act (ARPA) Fund projects. The EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the EPD is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under Georgia's SERP.

The proposed project involves installation of approximately 7,200 linear feet of new 6" PVC water line; installing 16 house service, including water meters; and replacing existing 2-inch water lines. Also, 9 fire hydrants along Elberton Highway will be installed for fire protection.

This project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: Construction of new water lines, valves, hydrants and appurtenances in previously disturbed areas within ½ mile of the existing distribution system and storage facilities for purpose of system reliability, both serving primarily existing residential or commercial users;. Furthermore:

- The project will not require issuance of a new or modification of an existing ground water or surface water withdrawal permit;
- The project is not known or expected to have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment, either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local or private actions;
- The project is not known or expected to directly or indirectly have a significant adverse effect on: or threatened species; or environmentally important natural resource areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands or aquifer recharge areas; and cultural resource areas, such as archaeological and historic sites; habitats of endangered species;
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public scrutiny upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at the City Hall in Lincolnton, Georgia.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments, within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
ATTN: Asmita Patel, Environmental Engineer  
Drinking Water Program  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 1362 East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding approval of the project planning documents. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice in a local newspaper that serves the City of Lincolnton area.



Publish Date: 11/21/2022

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Manny Patel, Program Manager  
Drinking Water Program  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division