



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1470A, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1511

**NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS**

The City of Blairsville made an application to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). The loan is to conduct a well exploration study with the intention of drilling up to three new wells into their public drinking water system in order to improve drinking water supply and quality for the city. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Guidelines, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	Ground Water Exploration and Development
Project Location:	City of Blairsville, Union County, Georgia
Total Project Cost:	\$ 700,000
Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:	\$ 700,000

Project Description

Under this project, The City of Blairsville will conduct a well exploration and drill several new wells within the water system. These new wells will provide the supplemental drinking water flow that is being diminished in the Miller and Experimental Station Wells.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will have minimal impact on the environment. The City of Blairsville is experiencing diminishing capacity in two of its supplemental groundwater wells. To help protect the reliability and operating costs of the water system, the city has begun a well exploration with the intention to test and drill several new well sites. Developmental plans for the city and the surrounding Union County call for a need for improved infrastructure to better accommodate tourism, the largest industry in the rural area. Also, supplemental wells will help to meet the current and future water demand. The overall impact of the proposed project will be beneficial. There will be no significant adverse secondary impacts associated with the project.

A review of the Engineering Report and Environmental Information Document for the proposed project has been performed by EPD's Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Program. A copy of these documents is available for public examination upon request at EPD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The addresses where a copy is available are listed below.


During the development and design of this project, the City of Blairsville has solicited public input. The project has undergone an Executive Order 12372 Review through the State agencies. The project has also been submitted to the Corps of Engineers, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review. No adverse comments have been received. No further environmental review of the project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of loan funds.

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

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
ATTN: Duplex Tchinda, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Program
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1052 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating all comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding the approval of the project planning documents. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.

Issue Date: 10/26/2023



Manny Patel
Drinking Water Program Manager
Watershed Protection Branch
Georgia Environmental Protection Division

Loan Recipient:
City of Blairsville, Georgia
P.O.BOX 307
Blairsville, GA 30512