

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

EPD Director's Office 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Suite 1456, East Tower Atlanta, Georgia 30334 404-656-4713

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

The City of Cleveland has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The project consists of the expansion of the existing wastewater treatment plant to 1.15 MGD. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Clean Water Act, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	City of Cleveland
	Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion to 1.15 MGD
	GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-024
Project Location:	City of Cleveland, White County, GA
Total Project Cost:	\$12,655,629
Anticipated SRF Loan Amount:	\$12,655,629

Project Description

The City of Cleveland proposes to expand the existing Cleveland Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) from 0.75 MGD to 1.15 MGD to accommodate anticipated population projections, alongside commercial and industrial growth, within the service area. The existing lemna pond treatment system will be replaced with a new expanded facility, which will consist of an influent pump station, screening, oxidation ditch, secondary clarification, tertiary filtration, UV disinfection, cascade aeration, and miscellaneous associated treatment components. Sludge will be held in an aeration tank and dewatered prior to disposal at a landfill. The proposed improvements will also allow the facility to meet reduced limitations of total phosphorus. Treated wastewater will be discharged into Tesnatee Creek.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Cleveland by providing reliable service and treatment for the anticipated future residential, commercial, and industrial growth within the service area. The project will also allow the City to meet reduced permitted effluent limitation for total phosphorus. Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust, and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction.

The project will take place primarily on City owned-property. No impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

The City anticipates increasing customer sewer rates by 5% as a result of the project.

No anticipated adverse secondary impacts are associated with the project. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is as follows: Project activity is not anticipated to result in adverse environmental impacts beyond those that can be easily mitigated with minimal extra expense or delay in project implementation.

Public Notice

A public information meeting was held on July 13, 2020 at Cleveland City Hall to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meetings.

An Environmental Review Record concerning the proposed project has been made by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division that documents the environmental review of the project and provides more detail explaining why an environmental impact statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Division's address listed below. A copy of the SRF planning document is available for public review upon request at Cleveland City Hall during business hours and at the Division between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

No further environmental review of this 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 30 days of the issuance date of this notice via email to <u>kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov</u> or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division Watershed Protection Branch Wastewater Regulatory Program ATTN: Kelli-Ann Sottile 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Suite 1152 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Notice of No Significant Impact City of Cleveland CW-2020-024 Page 3

After evaluating the comments received, a final decision regarding the loan will be made. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.

Loan Recipient: City of Cleveland 85 South Main Street Cleveland, Georgia 30528

DEC 292020

Issue Date: _____

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Richard E. Dunn Director Environmental Protection Division

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GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-024 December 2020

