



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

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Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1511

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

The City of Lavonia has made an application to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) and the Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). The loan will include the installation of smaller pumps and/or a Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) in Lake Hartwell Booster Pump Station, installation of SCADA monitoring and control system, replacement of altitude valves, construction of a new high service pump station, installation of a larger storage tank installation of a larger alum storage tank, improvements on the chemical feed system, and Miscellaneous building improvements. It also includes the presentation of the high-rate pilot study results. 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:	Water System Improvements
Project Location:	City of Lavonia. Franklin County, Georgia
Total Project Cost:	\$5,000,000
Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:	\$5,000,000

Project Description

The City of Lavonia is proposing the installation of smaller pumps and/or a Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) in the Lake Hartwell Booster Pump Station, installation of SCADA monitoring and control system, replacement of altitude valves in water storage tanks, construction of a new high service pump station to provide an improved pumping arrangement and better utilize clear well storage capacity, retaining existing pumps as backup, installation of a larger alum storage tank, and improvements on the chemical feed system. It also includes the presentation of the pilot study results demonstrating that filters can safely process 4.0 MGD. Finally, it includes miscellaneous building improvements.

Anticipated Impacts

Construction vehicles and activity from construction will cause a moderate increase in noise levels. However, increased noise levels will be localized onsite and will return to normal at the completion of the project. Noise levels and air quality impacts resulting from the project operation should be minimal.

The Georgia Wildlife Resources Division found the following seven (7) aquatic species of concern within 10 miles of the project area: *Moxostoma sp.*, *Micropterus pucpugy*, *Lampsilis Cariosa*, *Somatogyrus tenax*, *Bombus fraternus*, *Lampropeltis rhomamaculata*, and *Coreopsis rosea*.

The division sets that if best management practices (BMPs) are utilized during construction and the proposed project follows the recommendations addressed in the division's comment letter, there should be minimal impact on the surrounding environment.

The City of Lavonia proposed project will provide an improved pumping arrangement and better storage capacity 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, City of Lavonia has solicited public input. No adverse comments have been received. The project has undergone an Executive Order 12372 Review through the State agencies. No adverse comments were received from State Historic Preservation Office, and the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). In addition, the project engineer issued a statement certifying no activities or facilities related to the project were located in streams, lakes, and wetlands. No further environmental review of the project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of loan funds.

If there are no public objections, then this Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) will be adopted without further public notice and Georgia Environmental Protection Division Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering program will issue final approval of the project planning document. 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: Sergio Sanchez Villamarin, 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 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: 4/30/2026

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

Loan Recipient:
City of Lavonia
12221 Augusta Rd.
Lavonia, GA 30553