

Richard E. Dunn, Director

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 Pooler 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 upgrades to the Savannah Quarters lift station and replacement of the existing force main from the lift station to the nearby wastewater treatment facility. 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 Pooler

Savannah Quarters Lift Station and Force Main Upgrade

GEFA Loan No. CW-2021-034

Project Location: City of Pooler, Chatham County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$6,600,000

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$6,600,000

Project Description

The City of Pooler proposes to upgrade the Savannah Quarters lift station by replacing the existing 8-foot diameter wetwell with duplex submersible pumps with a 12-foot diameter wetwell with triplex submersible pumps, each with a capacity of 3,340 gpm at 118.4 ft TDH. In addition, the existing 12-inch force main that connects the lift station to the nearby Bloomingdale Regional Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) will be replaced with a new 18-inch force main. The upgrade will eliminate concerns regarding capacity due to future development. The upgrades will also help to prevent future sewer spills and violations. The Bloomingdale Regional WPCP has adequate capacity to treat the buildout flow of 1.75 MGD as a result of this proposed project.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Pooler. The project will allow the City to continue to grow in the southern region of its service area and avoid future capacity shortages in the sewer system.

Notice of No Significant Impact City of Pooler CW-2021-034 Page 2

Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction. In addition, the City expects an increase in energy consumption due to the higher horsepower pumps; however, this impact will be mitigated through the use of variable frequency drives to reduce energy consumption when demand allows.

The project will take place primarily on City property, Georgia Department of Transportation right-of-ways, and utility easements. No impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

There will be no increase to customer sewer rates 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 20, 2021 at Pooler City Hall to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meeting.

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 Pooler 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 chris.bruegge@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division Watershed Protection Branch Wastewater Regulatory Program ATTN: Chris Bruegge 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Suite 1152 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Notice of No Significant Impact City of Pooler CW-2021-034 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 Pooler

100 US Highway 80 SW

Pooler, GA 31322

2021-09-29

Issue Date:

Richard E. Dunn

Director

Environmental Protection Division

