

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 Social Circle 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 intended to install and upgrade several water mains in various areas of the city, to enhance water flow, fire flow, and water pressure in both residential and industrial areas. Also, some needed improvements will occur at the city water treatment plant. 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:	2023 SOCIAL CIRCLE WATER IMPROVEMENTS
Project Location:	City of Social Circle, Walton County, Georgia
Project Number:	DW2022032

Project Description

The 2023 Social Circle Water System Improvements consist of four elements:

The South Cherokee Road water main extension will tie into an existing 12" stub out near the CSX Railroad Bridge (west side of the road) and will replace the existing 6" main with a 12" water main down to Spring Street to the existing water tank. The new 12" water main will tie into an existing 8" main.
Social Circle Parkway 12" water main extension will connect at East Hightower Trail to the existing line on the north side of the road, then run down the west side of the Parkway to connect to an existing water main at Cannon Drive.

•Brookstone Place Office Park Valve and Interconnection that will install a new valve and an interconnection at the Brookstone Place Office Park.

•Social Circle Water Treatment Plant improvements which consist of a complete electrical upgrade of the existing water treatment plant to 480V, new service panels, new high service pumps and adding SCADA telemetry.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will have minimal impact on the environment as construction will include all necessary and required protection measures including erosion control facilities for protection against the discharge of sediments into receiving streams and protection against releases of fluids and other waste materials resulting from construction activities.

The city considers this project to be of vital importance to enhance the water pressure and fire flow within the water system, to support anticipated commercial and industrial economic development, and to improve the reliability and functionality of the Water Treatment Plant.

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 Social Circle 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.

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

Loan Recipient: City of Social Circle, Georgia

Issue Date: <u>12/18/2023</u>

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