



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

EPD Director's Office

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

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Atlanta, Georgia 30334

404-656-4713

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Vidalia Wastewater Treatment Improvements and Sewer Rehabilitation

City of Vidalia (Toombs County)

GEFA Loan No. CW-2021-031

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned. The proposed project consists of the replacement of aerators and removal of solids at the South Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP); clarifier rehabilitation at the Swift Creek WPCP; rehabilitation of pump stations 2, 6, and 26; and rehabilitation of existing sewer lines. The proposed project will also involve minor renovations to the WPCP buildings in order to install new electrical and mechanical equipment. All construction will be located on City owned-property and/or existing right-of-ways.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: functional replacement of equipment and minor rehabilitation of existing facilities. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

This determination becomes effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated. The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at Vidalia City Hall in Toombs County, Georgia.

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All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit comments within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice via email to josh.hayes@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Josh Hayes
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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

SEP 01 2021

Publish Date: _____



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