

**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 Hoschton has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Office of Budget and Planning for a loan through the State Revolving Fun (SRF) and a grant through the State American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The project consists of the expansion of the existing Hoschton Water Pollution Control Plant from 0.5 MGD to 0.95 MGD and relocation of its discharge to Indian Creek. 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 Hoschton Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion to 0.95 MGD GEFA Loan No. CW-2022-013 ARPA Grant No. GA-0007316
Project Location:	City of Hoschton, Jackson County, GA
Total Project Cost:	\$13,620,000
Anticipated GEFA Loan Amount:	\$10,000,000
Anticipated ARPA Grant Amount:	\$2,000,000

## **Project Description**

The City of Hoschton proposes to expand their existing Hoschton WPCP by upgrading their existing headworks, tertiary filters, UV disinfection, sludge dewatering system, and lift station in conjunction with the construction of an additional orbal aeration system, two clarifiers, and digester. The project will also include the construction of approximately one mile of force main to discharge the treated wastewater from Hoschton Water Pollution Control Plant to Indian Creek.

## **Anticipated Impacts**

The proposed project will serve the City of Hoschton and expected industrial growth in the area. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future population.

Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust, and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction.

For construction that will take place in the floodplain, proper erosion control measures will be taken for the proposed force main and all structures will be designed two feet above the 100-year floodplain. Additionally, in accordance with the requirements requested by the Historic Preservation Division, the City must submit plans for the waterfall construction at Sells Mill Park for review.

The project will take place primarily on City property (or right-of-way) and/or previously disturbed land.

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 7, 2022 at Hoschton 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 Hoschton 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 1470A East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Notice of No Significant Impact City of Hoschton GEFA CW-2022-013 ARPA GA-0007316 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 Hoschton 79 City Square Hoschton, GA 30548

Feb 13, 2023

Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Richard E. Dunn Director Environmental Protection Division

