CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION
West WPCP – Influent Pump Station Screen Installation
City of Villa Rica (Carroll County)
GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-008

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 installing an automated screen at an influent pump station. The proposed project will also include the installation of a concrete channel between the influent manhole and new screen and the repair or replacement of miscellaneous equipment at the pump station. All construction will be located on City-owned property and/or existing right-of-ways. The project may be located in 100-year floodplain as indicated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. However, all proposed structures and mechanical equipment will be constructed or installed above flood elevation, as determined from one of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) methods. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

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. In addition, for the construction of the concrete channel which takes place in the floodplain, the structure will be designed two feet above the 100-year floodplain.

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 Villa Rica City Hall in Carroll County, Georgia.
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 chris.bruegge@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Chris Bruegge
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1470A 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.

01/26/2023

Richard E. Dunn, Director
Environmental Protection Division