

Richard E. Dunn, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

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NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS

The Dade County Water and Sewer Authority has 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 for renovations to remove debris from the raw water source for Dade County 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: Raw Water Intake Upgrades

Project Location: Dade County, Georgia

Total Project Cost: \$1,874,400

Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount: \$1,874,400

Project Number: DWSRF2023014

Project Description

The proposed project involves installation of a perforated plate screen to remove debris from the raw water prior to pumping, installing a debris chute to carry the debris away from the stream, and providing an access platform for maintenance of the screen and chute. The existing debris diversion wall will require replacing with larger wall to prevent debris from entering the screened water area during times of high water levels in stream. The project also includes debris chute pumps, debris container and concrete pad, access ladder, and other miscellaneous items related to the Raw Water Intake Upgrade.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will have minimal impact on the environment as construction will be limited to the existing project site. The project is located in Lookout Creek and there will be diversion of the creek while the project takes place to allow for the construction. However, there should be no permanent changes to the flow patterns, or other long-term effects on the creek due to this project.

A review of the Preliminary 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 and at the Dade County Board of Commissioners office during normal business hours.

On February 13, 2023, Dade County Board of Commissioners conducted a public meeting in accordance with the requirements of DWSRF guidance in order to inform the public about the project. The County received no adverse comments. The project has undergone an Executive Order 12372 Review through the State agencies. The project has also been submitted to the Corps of Engineers, 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: Asmita Patel, Environmental Engineer Drinking Water Program 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1470A East Atlanta, Georgia 30334

After evaluating all comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding 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.

Issue Date: 3/6/2023

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