

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

The City of Flowery Branch has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The project consists of the phased expansion of the existing wastewater treatment facility up to 2.2 MGD. 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 Flowery Branch
Wastewater Treatment Facility
Phased Expansion to 2.2 MGD
GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-010

Project Location: City of Flowery Branch, Hall County, GA

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$24,331,882

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$23,300,000

Project Description

The City of Flowery Branch proposes to expand the existing Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) up to 2.2 MGD in order to accommodate current and future growth within the service area. The expanded treatment facility will consist of screening, grit removal, oxidation ditches for biological treatment, secondary clarification, tertiary filtration, disinfection, and post-aeration. Sludge will be aerobically digested and dewatered. Treated effluent will be discharged to Lake Lanier in the Chattahoochee River Basin.

Although the City has proposed an ultimate flow of 2.2 MGD, the facility may not be authorized to operate at the maximum flow of 2.2 MGD until total phosphorous reductions are achieved within the watershed; therefore, the City may receive authorization to operate under an interim expansion phase(s) prior to operating at the maximum flow.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Flowery Branch by providing reliable service and treatment for the anticipated future residential, commercial, and industrial growth within the service area.

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

The project will take place primarily on City-owned property. No impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

Sewer rates have been increased approximately 8.5% 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 16, 2020 at the Flowery Branch 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 Flowery Branch 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 kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

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

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 Flowery Branch
Post Office Box 757
Flowery Branch, Georgia 30542



APR 19 2021

Issue Date: _____

Richard E. Dunn
Director
Environmental Protection Division

FLOWERY BRANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY EXPANSION

