

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

Watershed Protection Branch 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Suite 1152, East Tower

Atlanta, Georgia 30334 404-463-1511

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

Lee County 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 constructing a new groundwater well for increased water supply and for countywide water meter replacement. 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:

Lee County Water System Improvements

Project Location:

Lee County, Georgia

Total Project Cost:

\$1,000,000

Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:

\$1,000,000

Project Description

The proposed project involves construction of a new well to address low pressure in the Forest Parkway area. This project will also include countywide water meter replacement and implementation of reading equipment. The new water meters will increase water conservation monitoring, water accountability, and improve water loss.

Anticipated Impacts

Based on responses from government agencies the proposed project will have minor impact on the environment, cultural resources, and residents within the service area. The project will not degrade water quality or permanently minimize the quantity of water available in the aquifer. Erosion of sedimentation will be minimized by installing erosion control devices. Construction is not anticipated to significantly impact nearby businesses, houses or churches.

A review of the 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. The addresses where a copy is available are listed below.

During the development and design of this project, the Lee County has agreed to solicit public input. 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 were received. If there are no public objections, then this Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) will be adopted without further public notice and Georgia Environmental Protection Division Drinking Water Permitting and Engineer program will issue final approval of the project planning document. 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: Hassan Naroo, Environmental Engineer Drinking Water Program 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1362 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

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: 06/17/2020

Manny Patel

Drinking Water Program Manager Watershed Protection Branch Georgia Environmental Protection Division

Loan Recipient:

Lee County 905 US Highway 19 South, Leesburg, GA-31763