

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 Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & 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 the construction of a new wholesale water system to serve its three member cities: Fairburn, Union City, and Palmetto. 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: Middle Chattahoochee Wholesale Water System

Project Location: Fulton County, Georgia

Total Project Cost: \$79,325,000

Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount: \$79,325,000

Project Description

The proposed project will include: the construction of a raw water intake pumping station on the Chattahoochee River, a raw water transmission main from the river to the water treatment facilities, a raw water storage tank, water treatment facilities, finished water transmission mains to connections with Authority member cities, and an elevated water storage tank.

Anticipated Impacts

Currently, the cities of Union City and Fairburn purchase water from the city of Atlanta on an at will basis without a contractual service obligation or pricing, and the City of Palmetto has a contract to purchase supplemental water from the Coweta County Water and Sewer Authority and operates its own water treatment plant for a small historical reservoir that will be decommissioned upon the proposed project becoming operational. The formation of the Authority would allow the three member cities more access to water at a much lower cost than current operation.

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 City of Fargo has solicited 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 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: Disha Thakkar, 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: <u>07/28/2022</u>

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

Loan Recipient:

Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & Sewer Authority 509 Toombs Street Palmetto, GA 30268