



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1470A, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1511

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

The City of Ephesus has made an application to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a grant through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The grant is for constructing of new drinking water supply well to provide safe and adequate water supply to City of Ephesus customers. 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:	New Well #4 construction
Project Location:	City of Ephesus, Georgia
Total Project Cost:	\$371,000
Anticipated Grant Amount:	\$370,800

Project Description

The proposed project includes construction of a new supply well, City of Ephesus Well #4, and install a pipeline from this well to existing water distribution system. The new supply well and pipeline are needed to supplement the City of Ephesus' water supply to provide sufficient drinking water to the community during periods of peak water demand. Existing water providers for the City are not able to provide sufficient and sustainable quantities of water during periods of peak demand. The new supply well and pipeline would also become the primary source of water for the City and provide water at a more economical cost compared to purchasing water from available supplies.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed new well would draw water from the crystalline rock aquifer that underlies much of the Piedmont and Blue Ridge physiographic provinces of Georgia. The proposed action likely does not have the potential for decreasing the quantity of water available from the crystalline aquifer. There are no other public water systems or agricultural operations utilizing groundwater within Heard County (GA EPD, 2020). Erosion from the discharge of well water during the Well No. 4 development activities will be controlled with a Best Management Practice (BMP) consisting of a plunge pool/sump lined with stones to reduce/dissipate the hydraulic force from the discharge. During the construction of the water pipeline, precipitation can contact exposed soils in the excavation and temporary stockpiles adjacent to the excavation. Silt fencing will be erected to surround the excavation and stockpile areas planned for each day of construction to reduce the potential for migration of stormwater and soil from the daily work area. The other minor effects include air quality, soil stability/erodibility and noise which are temporary and site specific.

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 Ephesus 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 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 Tower
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.

6/3/2024

Issue Date: _____



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