Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

EPD Director's Office

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Suite 1456, East Tower Atlanta, Georgia 30334 404-656-4713

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

The City of Social Circle 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 improvements to pump stations, gravity sewers, and force mains in the city. 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 Social Circle

Sewer and Pump Station Rehabilitation

GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-010

Project Location: City of Social Circle, Walton County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$17,134,421

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$9,833,697

Project Description

The City of Social Circle proposes to rehabilitate existing gravity sewers, pump stations, and force mains throughout the City. The proposed improvements include replacing the existing pump stations and force main servicing the Brookstone Housing Complex, Carver Street, Hightower Trail, and Hawkins Academy with 8-in PVC gravity sewer, installing 1 new pump station at the intersection of E. Hightower Trail and Social Circle Parkway, replacing 3 pump stations (Isonova Technologies, Dart, and General Mills Pump Station), rehabilitation of 6-in and 8-in gravity sewer along Ronther Drive, Fairplay Drive, East Tower Road, Marco Estates, CSX Depo, Hickory Drive, and Memorial Drive with 8-in gravity sewer, and installing a total of 15 SCADA units at all sewer lift stations.

The proposed sewer lines will be conveyed to the Little River Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) for treatment. The upgraded system will provide sufficient capacity and reliable service for the current and future customers within the City of Social Circle.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve current and future customers in the City of Social Circle and Walton County by providing reliable local sewer service. The project will also reduce the excessive inflow and infiltration conveyed to the Little River WPCP during storm events.

Notice of No Significant Impact City of Social Circle GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-010 Page 2

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 be located in the 100-year floodplain as indicated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. However, the scope of work consists of replacement and/or rehabilitation of sewer lines and will not impact the floodplain. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division (HPD) found multiple historic resources within the proposed project's area of potential effect (APE), however the HPD provided a letter that the project will have no adverse effect on historical resources within its APE. The WALT Railroad ROW, Dixie Highway and any contributing or character defining features of both structures must be avoided. Sewer lines under railroads will be horizontally bored. The project will occur in wetlands; however, a wetlands disturbance permit will be provided by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The project will take place primarily on City property (or right-of-way) and/or previously disturbed land and no impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

There will be no increase to customer sewer rates 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 October 13, 2023 at Social Circle 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 Environmental Review and Planning Document (ERPD) is available for public review upon request at Social Circle 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.

Notice of No Significant Impact City of Social Circle GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-010 Page 3

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 alex.gramling@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division Watershed Protection Branch Wastewater Regulatory Program ATTN: Alex Gramling 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Suite 1470A 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 Social Circle

166 North Cherokee Road Social Circle, GA 30025

Issue Date: 10/23/2023

Jeffrey W. Cown

Director

Environmental Protection Division

