

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

The City of Waycross 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 a wide range of projects ranging from repairs and rehabilitation to lead and copper service line inventory creation. These projects will make the water system more resilient and enable a more reliable supply of higher quality water to 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:

Water System Improvements for the City of Waycross

Project Location:

Ware, Georgia

Total Project Cost:

\$2,500,000

Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:

\$2,500,000

Project Description

The proposed project involves rehabilitation of an existing water tower to bring it back into service for the city and industrial park, upgrades to the existing SCADA system infrastructure including new transmitters and communication devices for 4 wells and 7 water tower sites, investigations for Well #4, located on Alice St. to check the well casing and repairs made to the pump, creation of an inventory for lead and copper services with investigations for problem service lines, addition of corrosion control equipment at four existing well sites through installation of new phosphate feed lines and pumps, upgrades to the existing water plant building, and meter replacement.

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. All water improvements will all be conducted in a manner that does not adversely impact any surrounding areas outside of existing City right-of-way or historic properties. All project areas will be returned to pre-project conditions, with any repairs or replacements made to historic features should they be disturbed. Before any interior renovations/modifications are made to the historic Water Plant Building, all pertinent project information, including plans, photographs, and materials, will be provided to HPD once this phase of the project is in design so that further review can be conducted as needed to ensure that any proposed interior renovations to the Waycross Water Plant Administration Building are consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

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 Waycross 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 were 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: Hassan Naroo, Environmental Engineer Drinking Water Program 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1362 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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: 2/6/22

Manny Patel

Drinking Water Program Manager Watershed Protection Branch Georgia Environmental Protection Division

Loan Recipient:

City of Waycross PO Box 99, WAYCROSS, GA-31502