

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

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 City of Shellman has made an application to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a grant through the State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF). The grant is for the water system improvements to drill a new water well to provide a secondary source of water to the city. The city is required to have at least two wells to meet EPD regulations. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) Guidelines, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	Water System Improvements for the City of Shellman
Project Location:	Randolph County, Georgia
Project Number:	GA-0007264

Project Description

In order to meet the 1998 EPD backup water source requirements, the City of Shellman had a secondary well drilled in 2000 on a site on Pearl Street. In 2016 the City of Shellman had a critical failure of the Pearl Street water well drilled in 2000. The well began pumping excessive amounts of sand. The City of Shellman had the well inspected by Donald Smith Company Inc. and it was determined that the well could not be repaired due to a structural failure in the well casing causing it to fill with sand.

A new well was drilled in 2022 at the Pearl Street location utilizing the existing control / chemical building and equipment. The electrical panels, pump controls and chlorinators were tested and repaired to be placed back into service. The well was drilled 400 feet deep with 315 feet of 16" well casing. A new vertical turbine pump with a new 75 horsepower motor capable of delivering 500 gpm was installed.

The city initially received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant of \$303,600 to drill a new water well to provide a secondary source of water to the city. Unfortunately, the bid came in over the CDBG grant budget hence the City of Shellman needs \$138,700 in gap funding.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project had minimal impact on the environment as construction was limited to the existing project site. This project will provide the citizens of the City of Shellman with an adequate water supply if one of the two city wells fails.

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. Copies of these documents are also available at the city hall in Shellman.

During the development and design of this project, the City of Shellman 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: Tamika Samaroo, Environmental Engineer Drinking Water Program 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1470A 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>5/04/2023</u>

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