

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

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 Flowery Branch 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 will support a construction of ground water tank, demolish existing tank and purchase an existing well. 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 City of Flowery Branch

Project Location:

Hall County, Georgia

Total Project Cost:

\$5,115,000.00

Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:

\$5,115,000.00

Project Description

The proposed project is for an expansion and upgrade of the Flowery Branch Water System. Major components of the project are construction of a new Ground Water Tank (GWT) along East Railroad Avenue near Vireo Drive in Flowery Branch, demolition of the existing 60,000 gallon tank on the property, purchasing of an existing well site from the State of Georgia, constructing the necessary infrastructure to add the well or wells to the City's water distribution system, adding various new pipes to the distribution system and expanding and improving the City's SCADA system for monitoring and control of the water system.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will have minimal impact on the environment as construction will be limited to the existing project site. A soil erosion and sediment control plan and best management practices will help reduce erosion and run off. The minor impacts on water supply and resources, air quality, wastewater, solid wastes and forest land have been addressed and mitigation measures are provided in the Environmental Information Document.

A review of the 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 Flowery Branch 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 from the Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The comments from Historic Preservation Division has been mitigated by revising project scope as per mentioned under the Project Description. If there are no public objections, then this Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) will be adopted without further public notice and Georgia Environmental Protection Division Drinking Water Permitting and Engineer program will issue final approval of the project planning document. 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: 9/23/2020

Manny Patel

Drinking Water Program Manager Watershed Protection Branch Georgia Environmental Protection Division

Loan Recipient:

City of Flowery Branch 5410 W. Pine St Flowery Branch, GA 30542