

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 Homerville has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and the Georgia Office of Budget and Planning for a grant through the State American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The project consists of upgrades at the Homerville Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), including the construction of a new mechanical bar screen, two disk filter units, chemical feed pumps and storage tanks, and a cascade aerator, replacement of the influent pumps and an aeration tank blower, and rehabilitation of the influent pump station and package plant. 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 Homerville

Homerville WPCP Upgrades ARPA Grant No. GA-0010680

Project Location: City of Homerville, Clinch County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$3,356,800

Anticipated ARPA Grant Amount: \$1,746,720

Project Description

The City of Homerville proposes upgrades at the Homerville WPCP including the construction of a new mechanical bar screen, two disk filter units, chemical feed pumps and storage tanks, and a cascade aerator, replacement of the influent pumps and an aeration tank blower, and rehabilitation of the influent pump station and package plant. The project will allow the City to meet new and reduced effluent limits in NPDES Permit No. GA0031828 issued on June 23, 2023 and address issues with aging equipment and structures at the plant.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Homerville. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the current population.

Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction.

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The project will be located in the 100-year floodplain as indicated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. There is currently no established base flood elevation for the 100-yr floodplain, but the proposed upgrades will be constructed above historically observed flood elevation levels. The structure elevations will be indicated in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

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.

The current rates for wastewater are not anticipated to increase 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 April 21, 2025 at Homerville 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 Homerville 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.

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 august.lutkehus@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division Watershed Protection Branch Wastewater Regulatory Program ATTN: August Lutkehus 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Suite 1470A East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Notice of No Significant Impact City of Homerville ARPA Grant No. GA-0010680 Page 3

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 Homerville

Post Office Box 235 Homerville, GA 31634

Jeffrey W. Cown

Director

Environmental Protection Division

