

David B. Dove, Interim Director

Watershed Protection Branch

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Suite 1470A, 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 Sylvania has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) 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 facility to meet more stringent effluent permit limitations. The new biological treatment system will replace the existing activated sludge system. 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 Sylvania

Facility Upgrades

GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-020 ARPA Grant No. GA-0010670

Project Location: City of Sylvania, Screven County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$14,555,567

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$11,663,557 Anticipated ARPA Grant Amount: \$3,055,442

Project Description

The City of Sylvania proposes to upgrade the existing Sylvania Water Pollution Control Plant. The project will assist the City in complying with their current permit, which includes more stringent effluent limits for five-day biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, and ammonia. The project consists of the construction of a new biological treatment system (anaerobic, pre-anoxic and staged aeration zones), new chemical feed for pH control, new RAS/WAS pump station, new post-aeration cascade structure, additional tertiary filters, new aerobic digester, and new sludge dewatering belt filter press. The new biological treatment system will replace the existing activated sludge system.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Sylvania. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future population and allow the City to comply with more stringent effluent limitations in their NPDES permit.

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 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 anticipated to increase, however the rate changes have not yet been finalized.

Notice of No Significant Impact City of Sylvania GEFA Loan No. CW-2023-020 ARPA Grant No. GA-0010670 Page 2

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 May 2, 2023 at Sylvania 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 Sylvania 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 <u>august.lutkehus@.dnr.ga.gov</u> 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

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 Sylvania

104 South Main Street Sylvania, GA 30467

Issue Date: _____

David B. Dove Interim Director

Environmental Protection Division



