

**NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS**

Columbus Water Works has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The project consists of the installation of disinfection tanks and equipment at the Uptown CSO Facility and the installation of dechlorination tanks and equipment at the South Commons CSO Facility. 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: Columbus Water Works
Disinfection and Dechlorination Upgrades at the Uptown
CSO and South Commons CSO
GEFA Loan No. CW-2022-032

Project Location: City of Columbus, Muscogee County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$7,570,000

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$7,570,000

Project Description

Columbus Water Works proposes to install disinfection tanks and equipment at the Uptown CSO Facility and dechlorination tanks and equipment at the South Commons CSO Facility. The project also includes the replacement of the existing disinfection tanks at the South Commons CSO Facility.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Columbus. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future population and will allow Columbus Water Works to comply with their permit requirements.

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 may be located in 500-year floodplain as indicated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. However, all proposed structures and mechanical equipment will be constructed or installed above flood elevation, as determined from one of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) methods. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

The project will take place primarily on Columbus Water Works 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 cost of these projects has been taken into consideration for the current and upcoming user charge rates.

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 December 19, 2022 at the Columbus Water Works office 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 Columbus Water Works offices 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:

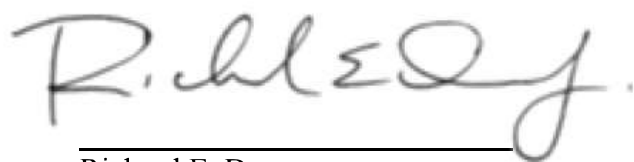
Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: August Lutkehus
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Suite 1470A East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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: Columbus Water Works
Post Office Box 1600
Columbus, Georgia 31902

05/10/2023

Issue Date: _____



Richard E. Dunn
Director
Environmental Protection Division

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