

#### **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 Lowndes County Board of Commissioners 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 the expansion of the South Regional Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) to 3.0 MGD. 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: Lowndes County Board of Commissioners

South Regional WPCP Expansion to 3.0 MGD

ARPA Grant No. GA-0011743

Project Location: Lowndes County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$20,350,000

Anticipated ARPA Grant Amount: \$5,250,000

### **Project Description**

The Lowndes County Board of Commissioners proposes to expand the South Regional WPCP to 3.0 MGD. The project will accommodate flow/population projects for the area. The facility expansion will consist of construction of two parallel moving bed biological reactors, which will include pre-anoxic, aerobic, and post-anoxic tanks. The project will also include replacement of the existing irrigation lift station and addition of approximately 120 acres of sprayfield area for the land application system.

#### **Anticipated Impacts**

The proposed project will serve Lowndes County. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future 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. The project will not be located in 100-year floodplain as indicated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map.

The project will take place primarily on County property 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.

Notice of No Significant Impact Lowndes County Board of Commissioners ARPA Grant No. GA-0011743 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 July 6, 2021 at the Lowndes County Administration Building 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 the Lowndes County 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: Lowndes County Board of Commissioners

327 North Ashley Street, Box 26

Valdosta, GA 31601

Jeffrey W. Cown

Director

**Environmental Protection Division** 

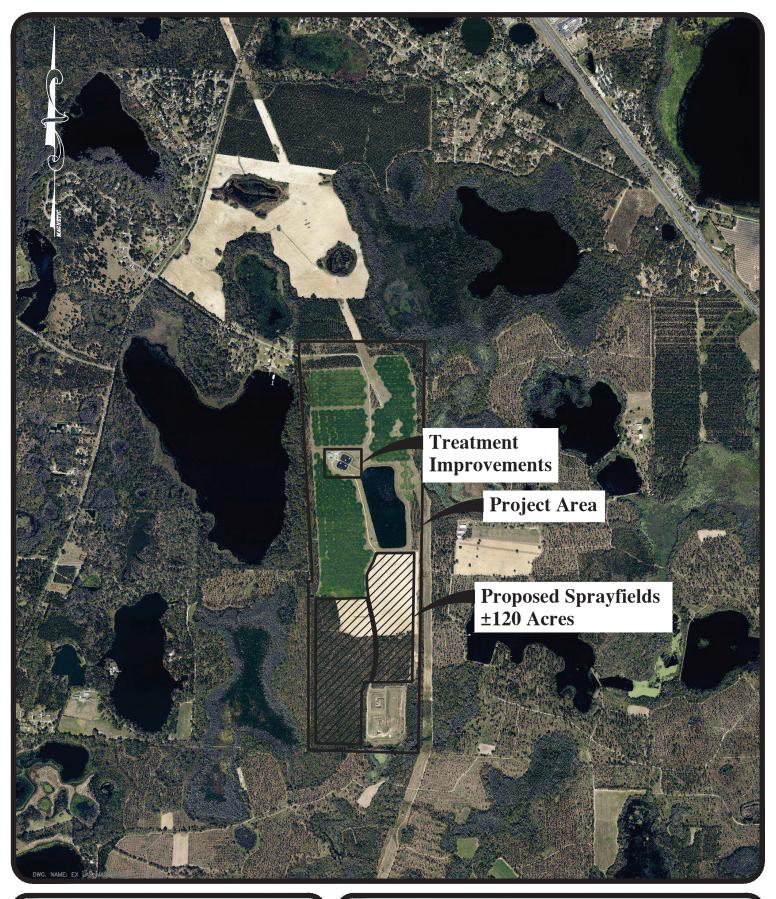




Figure 8.1.1

Proposed Improvements Map
South Lowndes LAS Expansion &
Treatment Improvements
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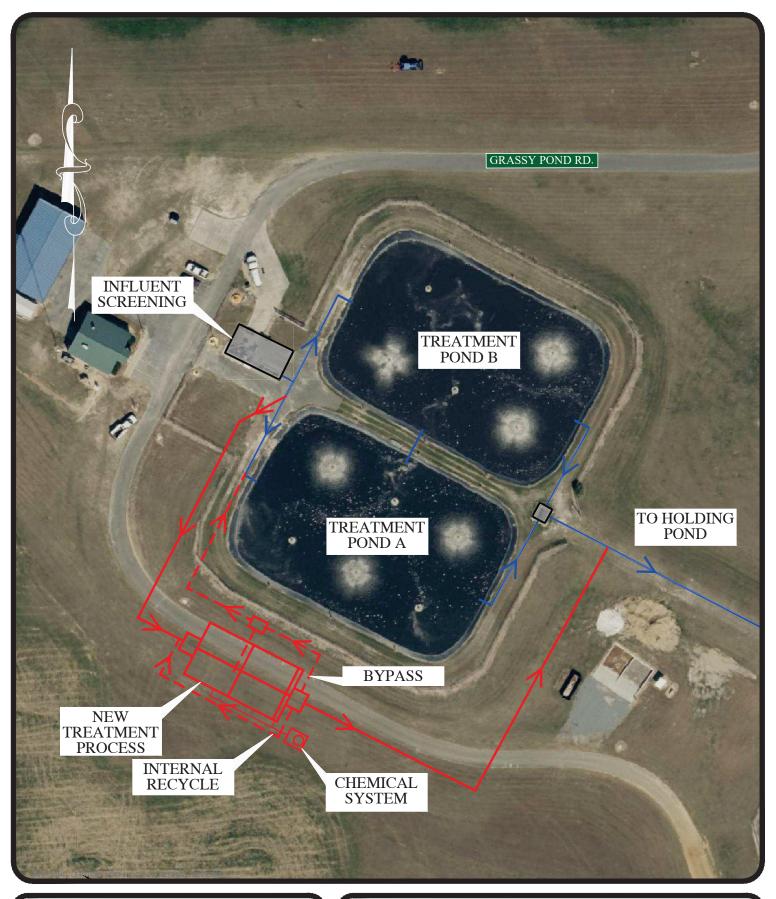




FIGURE 4.1 SOUTH LOWNDES LAS FACILITY MBBR PROPOSAL

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