

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

Oconee County Board of Commissioners 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 expansion of the existing Calls Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) from 1.5 MGD to 3.0 MGD and construction of a new effluent force main to the Middle Oconee River. 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:	Oconee County Board of Commissioners New 3.0-MGD Discharge to Middle Oconee River GEFA Loan No. CW-2022-030
Project Location:	City of Watkinsville, Oconee County, GA
Total Project Cost:	\$25,395,000
Anticipated SRF Loan Amount:	\$25,000,000

Project Description

The Oconee County Board of Commissioners proposes to expand the existing Calls Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) from 1.5 MGD to 3.0 MGD and construct approximately 19,000 linear feet of 24-in effluent force main to the Middle Oconee River. The existing discharge to Calls Creek remains at 1.5 MGD, but up to 3.0 MGD of treated domestic wastewater will be discharged to the Middle Oconee River. Oconee County Board of Commissioners will be only be permitted to discharge a combined 3.0 MGD of treated domestic wastewater between the two outfalls at Calls Creek and Middle Oconee River. The project will accommodate flow/population projections for the area. The facility expansion will include an additional influent pump, new bar screens, new grit removal unit, fine-bubble diffusers in the equalization basin, fine-bubble diffusers and mixers in the existing 2nd aeration basin structure, additional blowers, new chemical feed, an additional RAS pump, an additional tertiary filter, additional UV disinfection units, a new aerobic digester, an additional sludge dewatering unit, and a effluent pump station for the new discharge to Middle Oconee River.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve Oconee 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 may be located in 100-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 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 by 4.75% per year for the next 5 years. The County has completed a rate study for these changes to the user charge system.

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 June 14, 2022 at Oconee Veterans Park Community Center 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 Oconee 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.

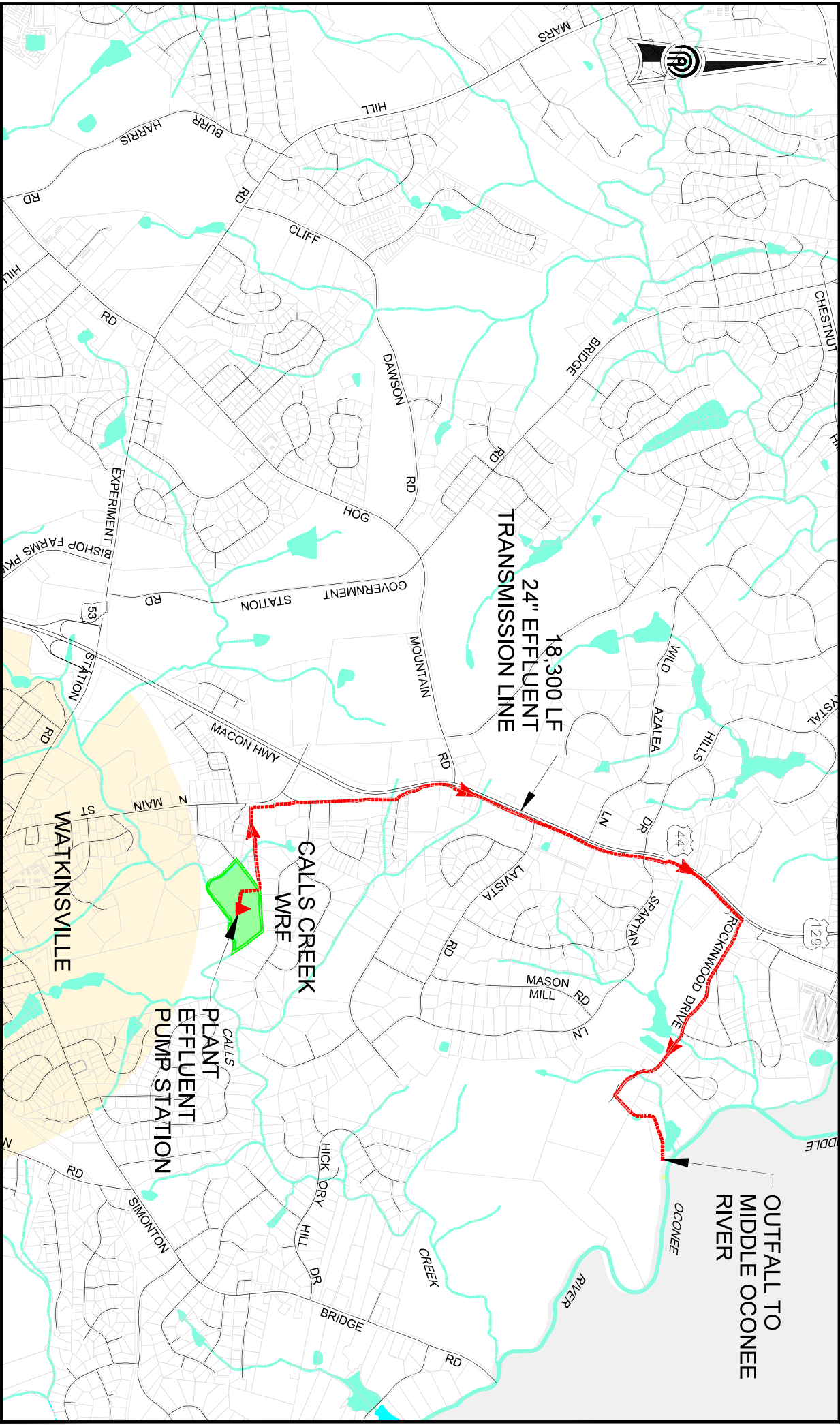
Loan Recipient: Oconee County Board of Commissioners
Post Office Box 145
Watkinsville, GA 30677

04/03/2023

Issue Date: _____



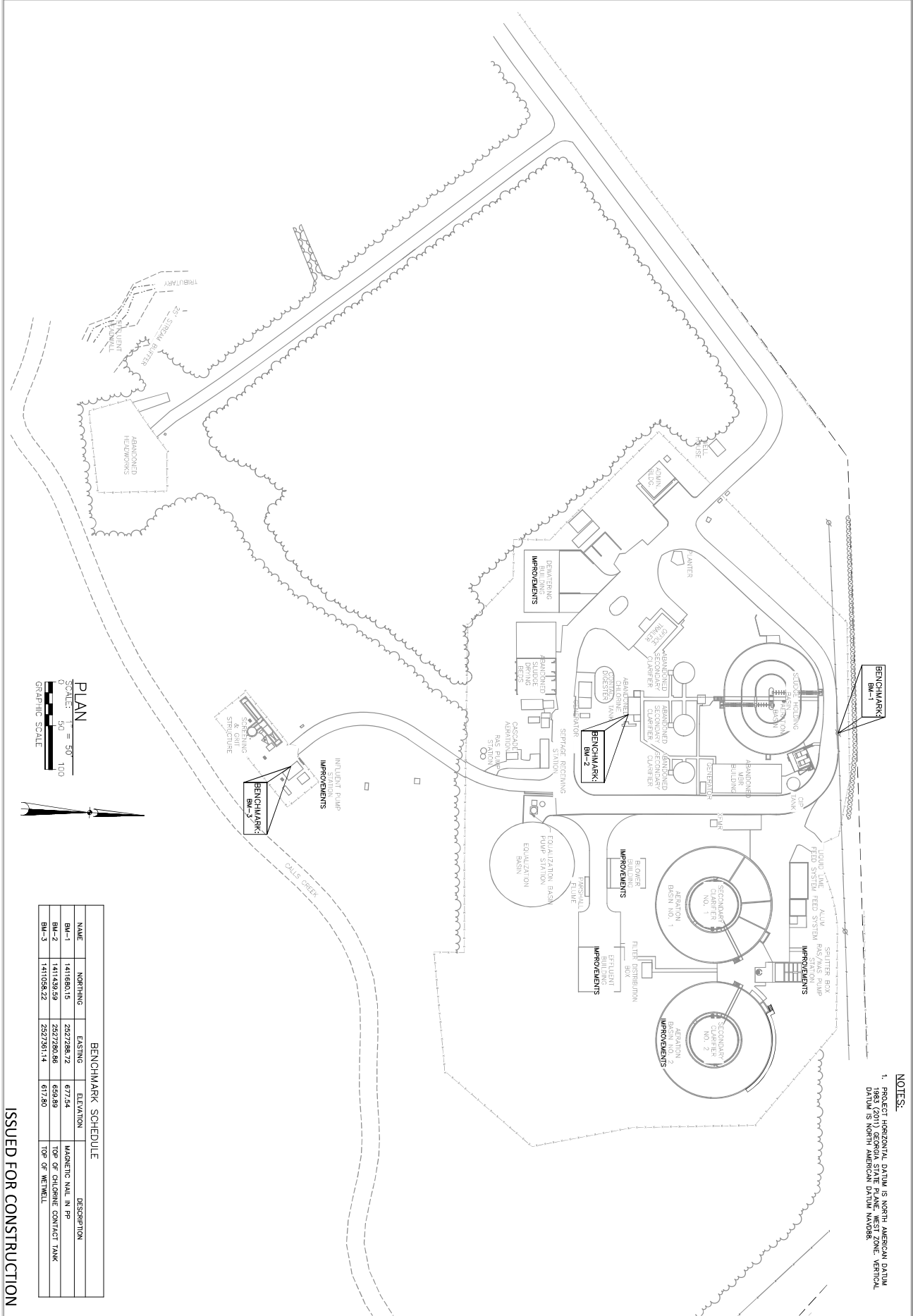
Richard E. Dunn
Director
Environmental Protection Division



OCONEE COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

CALS CREEK WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY
PLANNED ROUTE OF TREATED EFFLUENT
TRANSMISSION LINE

PROPOSED PLANT UPGRADES
MARCH 23, 2023
N.T.S.



ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION

 4000 PARKER PLACE DRIVE, STE. 330 NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29405 PHONE 843-628-1202	EXISTING SITE PLAN		CALLS CREEK WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY 3.0 MGD UPGRADE (PHASE 1)		ENGINEER SEAL 	
	FILE: SEE LEFT VERSION: 1.0 DATE: MAY 2022 PROJECT: 100157.01 DWG: C00.10	DESIGNED BY: DJH	DRAWN BY: DJH	CHECKED BY: MAB	APPROVED BY: JPK	



RFQ# 21-09-004
ENGINEERING DESIGN AND SUPPORT FOR
CALLS CREEK RECLAMATION FACILITY
UPGRADE TO 3.0 MGD

EXHIBIT 2 - FLOW SCHEMATIC FOR EXISTING FACILITIES

SEPTEMBER 2020

N.T.S.