

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

The Newton County Water and Sewer Authority (NCWSA) 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 construction of a new 1.25-MGD water reclamation facility (WRF) discharging to the Little River and the replacement and installation of gravity sewer, force mains, and an access road. 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: Newton County Water and Sewer Authority (NCWSA)
New 1.25-MGD Discharge WRF and Sewer Extension
GEFA Loan No. CW2019-003

Project Location: Newton County, Georgia

Total Project Cost: \$25,000,000

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$25,000,000

Project Description

The NCWSA proposes to construct a new 1.25-MGD water reclamation facility to discharge to the Little River. The new facility will include an influent pump station, influent screening, biological treatment via sequencing batch reactors, chemical addition for phosphorus removal, post-equalization basin, filtration, UV disinfection, and post-aeration. Sludge will be treated in an aerobic digester and dewatered before being transported to a landfill.

Also included in the project is the replacement of 12,900 linear feet of 12" force main with 12" gravity sewer, installation of 12,900 linear feet of 12" force main, installation of 8,500 linear feet of 12" gravity sewer, and an access road. The project will accommodate flow/population projections for unsewered areas and for the Stanton Springs Technology Park.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve portions of the existing customer base and unsewered east Newton County including the Stanton Springs Industrial Park. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality and sewerage conveyance 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. Since the outfall construction will impact more than 300 linear feet of a stream an application will be made to the USACE for a Nationwide Permit #7 for the outfall. 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.

The current rates for wastewater are anticipated to increase by approximately \$2.92 per customer on a monthly basis.

A public information meeting was held on October 12, 2017 at the NCSWA main office in Covington, Georgia 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 SRF planning document is available for public examination upon request at the NCSWA main office 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 josh.hayes@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Josh Hayes
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Suite 1152 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: Newton County Water and Sewer Authority
11325 Brown Bridge Road
Covington, Georgia 30016

MAY 28 2019

Issue Date: _____



Richard E. Dunn
Director
Environmental Protection Division

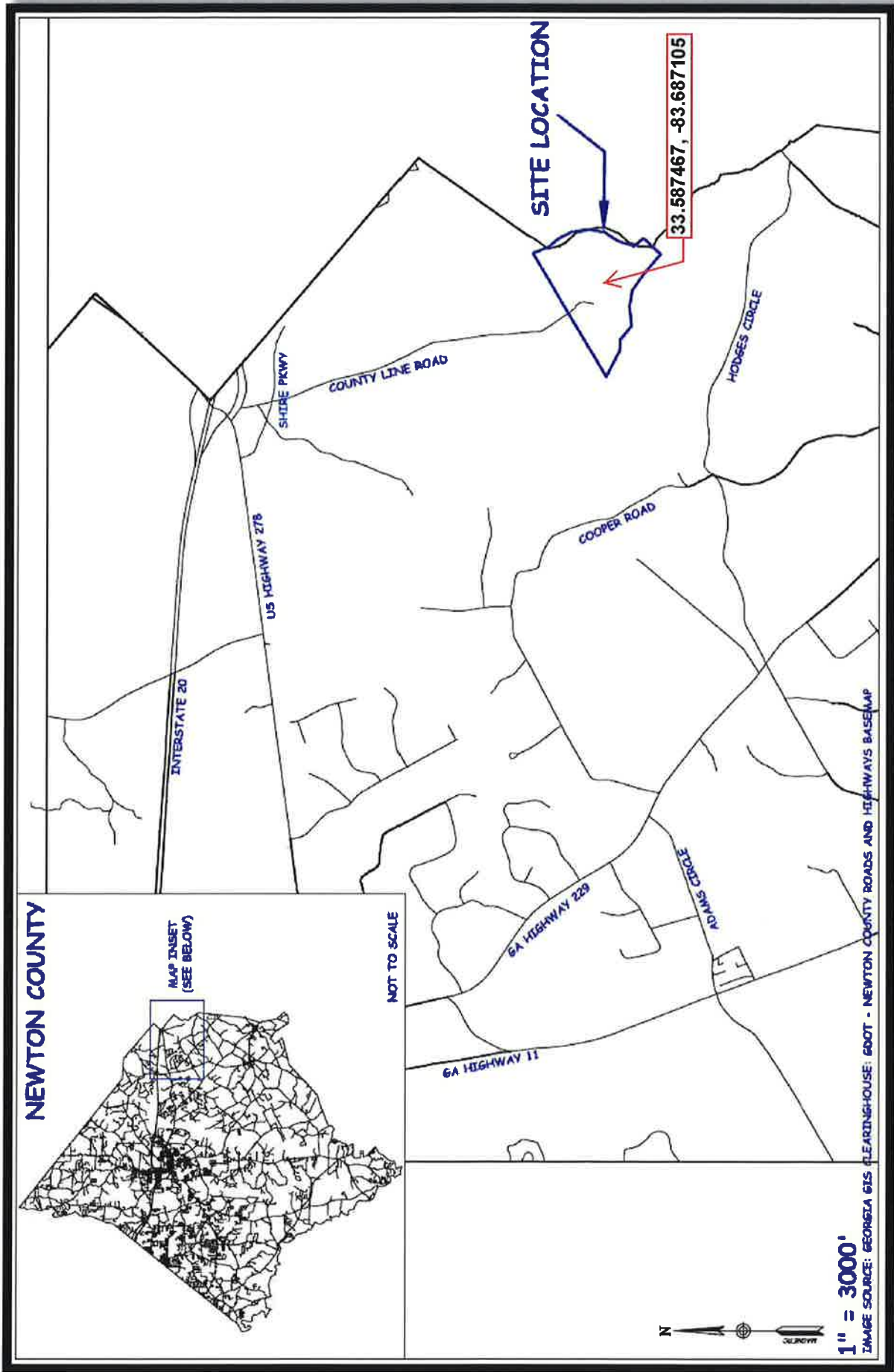


Figure 1: Little River Water Reclamation Facility Site Location Map

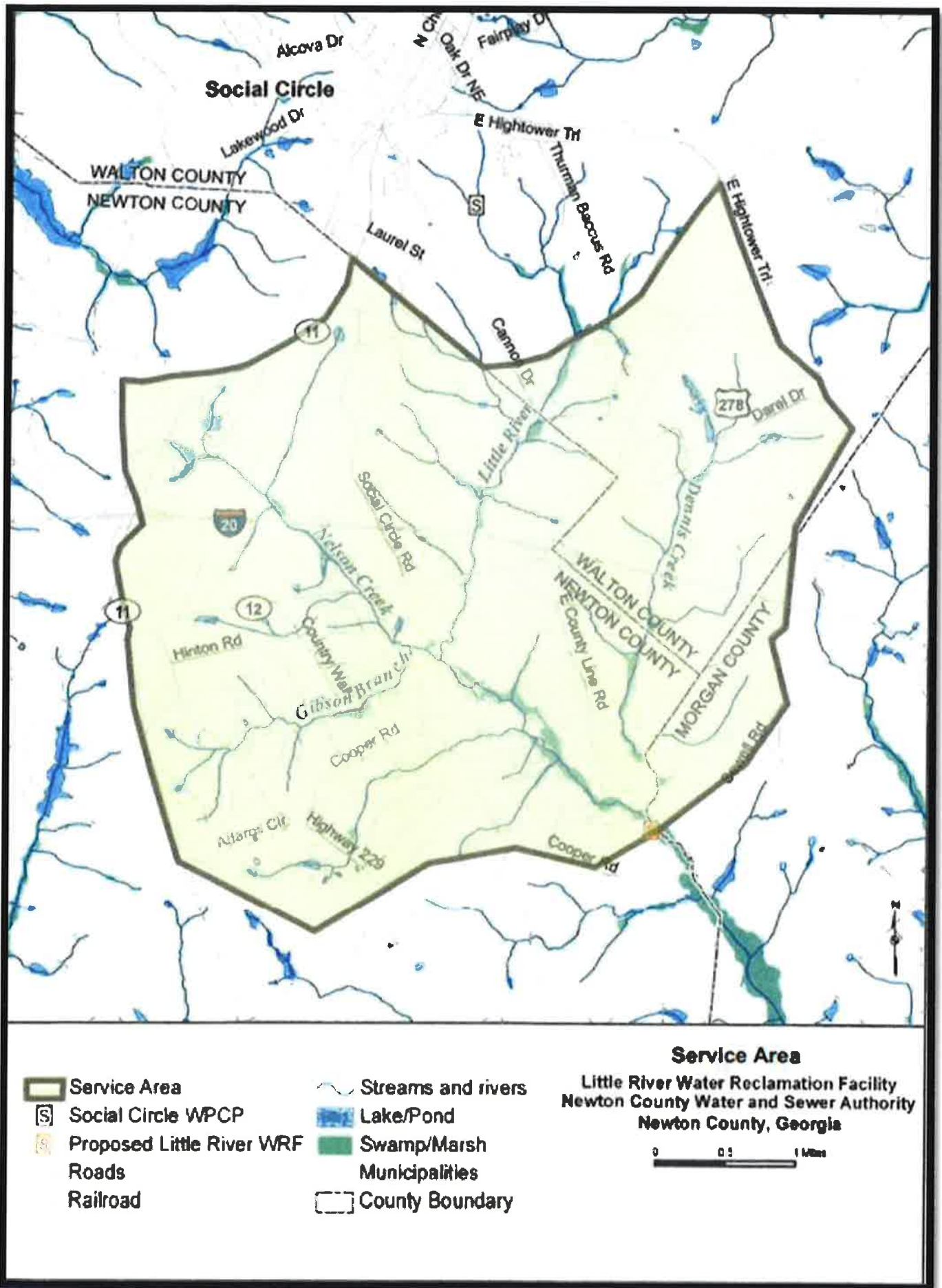


Figure 3: LRWRF Service Area Map