



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Watershed Protection Branch

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

The City of Wrens has made an application to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). The loan is for the construction of a new drinking water well, chemical building, associated water line, and all necessary appurtenances. The proposed project also includes the installation of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System and a permanent generator for emergency preparedness. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Guidelines, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	City of Wrens Water System Improvements
Project Location:	Jefferson County, Georgia
Total Project Cost:	\$2,313,216.00
Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:	\$2,313,216.00

Project Description

The proposed project would consist of constructing a new drinking water well, chemical building, and associated water line in the southern portion of the City of Wrens. A new well would allow the City of Wrens to provide its own source of potable water and meet average and peak daily demand. This well would serve as the City's primary potable water source and reduce the reliance on the Development Authority's well. Furthermore, the connection of the City's new well and the Development Authority's well would provide an emergency alternate source for both publicly owned systems. SCADA will be installed to communicate with other City infrastructure resources and City personnel. A permanent generator may be installed for better emergency preparedness.

Anticipated Impacts

Based on responses from government agencies the proposed project will have minor impact on the environment, cultural resources, and residents within the service area. Any disturbed wetlands, flood plain, or river corridor will be restored to its existing contours and no additional fill will be placed. The project will not degrade water quality or permanently minimize the quantity of water available in the aquifer. Roads will be wetted to eliminate dusty conditions. Erosion of sedimentation will be minimized by installing erosion control devices.

A review of the Engineering Report and Environmental Information Document for the proposed project has been performed by EPD's Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Program. A copy of these documents is available for public examination upon request at EPD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The addresses where a copy is available are listed below.

During the development and design of this project, the City of Wrens has solicited public input. The project has undergone an Executive Order 12372 Review through the State agencies. The project has also been submitted to the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review. No adverse comments were received. The Historic Preservation Office, stated that the project will have no adverse effect to historic properties within its APE, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5(b), provided the following condition is met:

“If either Site 2 or Site 3 is chosen as the final project site, establish a 30-foot environmentally sensitive area (ESA)/buffer, identified by the Secretary of the Interior (SOI)-qualified archaeologist, and delineated by orange barrier fencing (OBF), around the boundary of site 9JF345 (Site 2) or site 9JF346 (Site 3) within which no project activities will occur. Provide HPD with documentation of the establishment of the ESA/buffer at either Site 2 or Site 3, as applicable, including an updated site and landscape plan for the final project site showing the archaeological site will be avoided. The three proposed locations being considered are:

1. Site 1- 1981 Jefferson County parcel 0067 030A located at the intersection of Highway 88 and South Main Street.
2. Site 2- the vacant parcel 0085 019 located at 1080 Hoyt Braswell Road.
3. Site 3- the vacant parcel 0085 034 located along Kings Mill Road (Site 3).

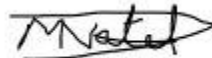
Satisfying the condition(s) above does not preclude the project from constituting an adverse effect, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5(a)(2) once the final project site has been determined and updated site plans are provided. Should an adverse effect be determined, and absent federal agency involvement, HPD will work with the applicant to complete the required steps to move the project forward.”

If there are no public objections, then this Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) will be adopted without further public notice and Georgia Environmental Protection Division Drinking Water Permitting and Engineer program will issue final approval of the project planning document. No further environmental review of the 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 thirty (30) days of the issuance date of this notice to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
ATTN: Tamika Samaroo, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Program
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1470A East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating all comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding approval of the project planning documents. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.



Issue Date: 5/17/24

Manny Patel
Drinking Water Program Manager
Watershed Protection Branch
Georgia Environmental Protection Division