

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Water System Improvement
Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority-Coweta County
WSID # 0770042/ DWSRF Loan # DW2016012

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above subject project's planning document in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP) for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) projects. The EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the EPD is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under Georgia's SERP.

The proposed project consists of:

- 1) Replacement of aging water meters with new radio-read meters and installation of all equipment, software and materials needed for a complete, functional network. Work will include four (4) new tower receiver units and base stations and replacement of over twenty thousand (20,000) existing ¾-inch and 1-inch water meters.
- 2) Replacement of over three hundred (300) large meters, from 1½-inch through 10-inch, replacement of blue polybutylene service lines where encountered at service connections, meter boxes, lids, pipe, backflow preventers, stops and other appurtenances where required at individual services, and enhanced customer portal software.

This proposed project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the DWSRF SERP:

- New meters and necessary appurtenances will be installed at existing services.
- Tower receiver units will be installed on existing elevated water storage tanks owned and operated by the Authority.
- The adjacent properties will not be impacted

Furthermore:

- The project will not require issuance of a new or modification of an existing ground water or surface water withdrawal permit;
- The project is not known or expected to have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment, either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local or private actions;
- The project is not known or expected to directly or indirectly have a significant adverse effect on: cultural resource areas, such as archaeological and historic sites; habitats of endangered or threatened species; or environmentally important natural resource areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands or aquifer recharge areas; and
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public scrutiny upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at the Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority office at 545 Corinth Road Newnan, Georgia 30263.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments, within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Rais Khan, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Permitting & Engineering Unit
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1362 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating the 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 publication of this Notice in a local newspaper that serves the Coweta County area.

Publish Date: 5-27-2016


Kirk Chase, Program Manager I
Watershed Protection Branch
Georgia Environmental Protection Division