

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

AMI Water Meter Improvements & Water Supply Well Improvements
City of Quitman (WSID# GA0270002)
Banks County, Georgia
DWSRF2016043

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above subject project 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 DWSRF entails the replacing of approximately 2,154 aged, inaccurate manual read water meters within the existing city of Quitman water distribution system. New installation will include AMI meters, meter reading infrastructure, hardware and software for reading equipment and billing, as well as miscellaneous replacement of curb stops, meter boxes and other appurtenances as required for meter installation. New backflow preventers will also be installed on services 2" and larger where existing backflow prevention devices do not exist. The project will seek to reduce unaccounted for water and reduce meter reading costs. Additionally, the project will replace an existing pump and motor at well no. 1 with a new pump with premium efficiency motor. Minor building modifications will also be made at the well building housing well no. 3.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the DWSRF SERP: Replacement of existing water lines, valves, hydrants, and appurtenances in existing rights-of-Ways for streets or utilities to serve existing customers, as well as, modest growth (less than 10%) within existing service area resulting in no change in existing land use. 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: or threatened species; or environmentally important natural resource areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands or aquifer recharge areas; and cultural resource areas, such as archaeological and historic sites; habitats of endangered.
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

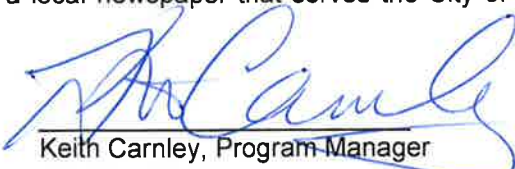
This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public scrutiny upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at the City Hall in Quitman, Georgia.

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
Lynn C. Ellis, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Program
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 City of Quitman area.

Publish Date: 12/6/16


Keith Carnley, Program Manager
Drinking Water
Georgia Environmental Protection Division