

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Elevated Tank Rehabilitation & Miscellaneous Water System Improvements
Georgetown-Quitman County Water & Sewer Authority (WSID# GA2390000, WSID# GA2390008)
Quitman County, Georgia
DWSRF17-028

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 project includes rehabilitation of an elevated tank paint system and safety elements associated with the tank, installation of a booster pump station to interconnect two water systems, the replacement of aged leaking water main, installation of gate valves to isolate the water system and a loop connection to improve hydraulic and remove stagnant water.

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-way for streets or utilities to serve existing customers, as well as, modest growth (less than 10%) within the existing services area resulting in no change in existing land use; Construction of new water lines, valves, hydrants and appurtenances in previously disturbed areas within ½ mile of the existing distribution system and storage facilities for purpose of system reliability, both serving primarily existing residential or commercial users; Improvements to existing surface or ground water treatment plants, including improvements to enhance security, which do not add a significant change in treatment capacity; Installation of fencing, alarms, monitors and/or other security-related equipment at existing critical water system component locations. 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: habitats of endangered 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;
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

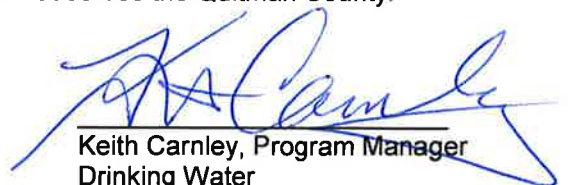
This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public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

Publish Date: 11/5/18


Keith Carnley, Program Manager
Drinking Water
Georgia Environmental Protection Division