

**September 1, 2022**

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

### **TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:**

As provided by the state environmental review process adopted in the rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 371.41, for projects to be funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code § 4321, *et seq.*, the TWDB staff has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

Evadale Water Control and Improvement District (WCID) No. 1  
Jasper County, Texas  
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 62873  
Water System Improvements  
Total Financing Amount: \$300,000  
(LF1001146)

The Evadale WCID No. 1 (District) is proposing to use \$300,000 in financing from the DWSRF program for the Water Systems Improvements project to replace deteriorated distribution system lines in order to reduce water loss and service interruptions due to leaks and line breaks. Specifically, the District will install 4 segments of piping, totaling approximately 4,869 linear feet (LF) and ranging in diameter from 1.5-inch to 2-inch, with 4-inch to 6-inch piping at various locations within existing rights-of-way (ROW) and easements, as shown in the attached figure. Three segments will be replacements for existing pipeline, while one segment will be 490 LF of new pipeline to create a loop in the system. Existing lines will be replaced by new lines in the same or proximate locations. The existing lines will be removed.

A portion of the proposed pipeline replacement will occur in an archeological survey area identified in the Texas Historical Commissions Site Atlas. The pipeline in this location will be installed within 3 feet of the existing line, limiting excavation impact to previously disturbed areas. The proposed project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. The proposed project is not located within the 100-year floodplain; therefore, coordination with the local floodplain administrator was not required. In addition, the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

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The decision to grant a Categorical Exclusion is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to the quality of the environment. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that:

- (1) the project no longer meets the requirements for a Categorical Exclusion as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC §371.42; or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The proposed project must comply with the following environmental conditions:

- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at [RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov).

Sincerely,

T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director  
Regional Water Project Development

Exhibit A: USGS Topographic Map

