



P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78711-3231, [www.twdb.texas.gov](http://www.twdb.texas.gov)  
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

## 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:

Dog Ridge Water Supply Corporation - Belton, Bell County, Texas  
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 62999  
Sherwood Shores Water Line Improvements  
Total Financing Amount: \$1,990,000  
Loan Nos. L1001817, L1001818, and LF1001819

The Dog Ridge Water Supply Corporation (Corporation) is proposing to use \$1,990,000 in financing from the DWSRF program for the Sherwood Shores Water Line Improvements project. Older water mains within the Sherwood Shores portion of the water system will be replaced with larger diameter pipelines. It is anticipated that the project will reduce water loss and help stabilize water pressure above the regulatory minimum requirements.

During periods of high demand, portions of the water system experience pressure losses below the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) minimum. Low pressure areas are believed to be caused primarily by small diameter water mains. Associated with this is excessive water loss, believed partly due to the degraded state of the pipelines. Water mains will be upsized from a two-inch line to either a four-inch or eight-inch line.

Pipe will be installed with traditional open-trench installation with the exception of roadway crossings, which will be done via open cut. The pipe will be installed in the existing cleared Right-of-Way to an approximate depth of three feet, within 10 feet of the existing water mains. Old water mains will be capped or plugged on each end and abandoned in place.

The TWDB may not fund testing, remediation, removal, disposal, or related works for contaminated or potentially contaminated materials. However, the project proponent should ensure that, if found, such materials are tested, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

There are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant historical or cultural sites within or adjacent to the project footprint, according to the Texas Historical

#### Our Mission

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L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | Tonya R. Miller, Board Member  
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, nor is the proposed project within a protected area surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. The proposed project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. The proposed project is not located within a Special Flood Hazard Area; 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.

The staff of the TWDB recommended issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for this project. The decision to grant a CE is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to the quality of the human environment or protected natural resources. 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 categorical exclusion from full environmental review 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 standard environmental conditions:

Standard Environmental Conditions

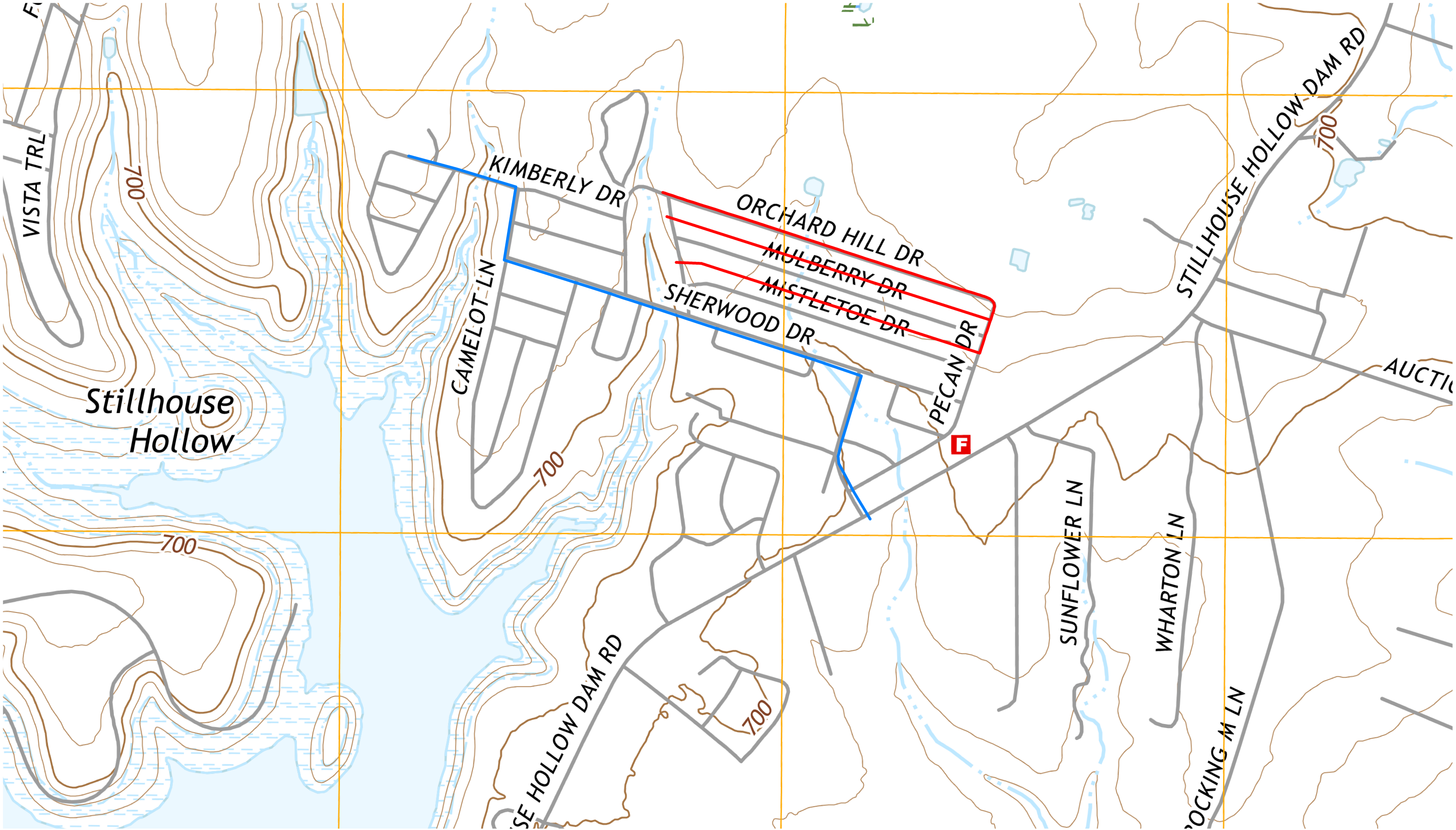
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the Dog Ridge Water Supply Corporation will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the Dog Ridge Water Supply Corporation will abide by the 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).

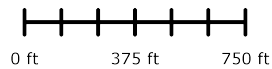
Sincerely,

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

Enclosures



**Sherwood Shores  
Improvements  
USGS Topographic Map**



**Legend**

— Proposed 4inch Water Main — Proposed 8inch Water Main

