

P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78711-3231, 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) § 375.61, for projects to be funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Equivalency Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code § 4321, *et seq.*, the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

City of Farmersville, Collin County, Texas
TWDB CWSRF Project No. 73761
New Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 3 and Wastewater Interceptor Project
CID 08 - Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 1 Mechanical Fine Screen
Total Financing Amount: \$5,845,000
Loan No. L1000631

The City of Farmersville (City) proposed to use \$5,845,000 in financing from the CWSRF Program for the New Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 3 and Wastewater Interceptor Project to 1) Rehabilitate Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) No. 1, restoring the plant capacity to 0.755 million gallons per day (MGD); 2) Construct a new 0.50 MGD WWTP No. 3; 3) Construct four regional lift stations; 4) Install six stationary emergency back-up generators for the lift stations and one mobile emergency back-up generator; 5) Add Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment to three existing lift stations and four proposed regional lift stations; 6) Install approximately 5,000 linear feet (LF) of force main to connect the existing WWTPs No. 1 and No. 2 to the proposed WWTP No. 3; 7) Install approximately 22,500 LF of a sewer interceptor line gravity main with a lift station; 8) Install associated appurtenances including manholes; and 9) Acquire necessary land and easements. The TWDB committed the funding on July 27, 2017, and the City closed on the funding on September 21, 2017. To date, seven construction contracts have been funded.

This Categorical Exclusion (CE) is issued for construction contract (CID) 08 - Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 1 Mechanical Fine Screen and is hereafter referred to as the proposed project. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued by the TWDB on February 15, 2018, for project components including the rehabilitation of WWTP No. 1. Because this FONSI is greater than 5 years old, and the City has requested to expend the remaining project funds on a newly proposed project component, a CE is being issued under CID 08.

Environmental impacts will be limited to rehabilitation activities at an existing site and will involve the installation of a mechanical fine screen to enhance existing treatment

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capabilities at WWTP No. 1. Project construction will occur on previously developed areas of the property; no vegetation removal or stream or floodplain disturbance will occur.

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 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. The proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat. There is the potential for karstic geology at the project site; however, installation of the mechanical fine screen will not require significant ground disturbance.

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.

The staff of the TWDB previously recommended the issuance of a CE for this project. After assessment, the decision to grant this CE is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to cultural and 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 a 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 § 375.62; 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 City of Farmersville (City) will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the City will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

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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 <a href="mailto:RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov">RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures



