

September 24, 2015

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the state environmental review process adopted in the permanent rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 375, Subchapter E, for projects to be funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Equivalency Program, and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code §4321, *et seq.*, the Executive Administrator of the Board has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50, Harris County, Texas
Sewer System Repair Project
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Equivalency Program (CWSRF), Project No. 73706
Texas Water Development Fund (DFund), Project No. 21731
Total TWDB Commitment: \$3, 810,000 (\$2,460,000, CWSRF; and \$1,350,000, DFund)

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 (District) is proposing to use approximately \$100,000 in residual funds from its DFund loan and a portion of its \$2,460,000 CWSRF loan to eliminate storm and sanitary sewer cross connections and rectify deterioration of the existing wastewater collection system in Barrett, Texas. Specifically, the District would replace or make point repairs at 50 locations on existing gravity sewer lines and 28 existing manholes, and reroute 3 storm-water pipelines currently connected to sanitary sewer lines. All work would occur within rights-of-way and easements in established suburban neighborhoods. In addition, the District would implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention System and site restoration, grading, hydromulch seeding, landscaping, and irrigation. The CWSRF loan also provides funding for planning, design, and construction of a new wastewater treatment plant, but the current Categorical Exclusion does not pertain to that project element.

The District had previously used planning funds from the DFund loan to assess potential environmental impact of the proposed sewer system repair project and determined that the construction would have no adverse effect. The project was also reviewed by state and federal regulatory agencies. Staff of the Texas Historical Commission determined that the repairs are unlikely to affect any significant or potentially significant cultural resources. Construction practices would be consistent with terms and conditions of United States Army Corps of

Our Mission

To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas

Board Members

Bech Bruun, Chairman | Kathleen Jackson, Member

Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator

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Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit 12 for Utility Line Activities without preconstruction notification. The project would not adversely impact Wetlands or Waters of the United States under the jurisdiction of the USACE. Although sections of the pipelines proposed for repair may be in the 100-year floodplain, all work areas would be restored to their preconstruction contours. The District would implement a Storm Water Pollution Protection System, and construction methods would conform to all applicable federal, state, and local floodplain protection standards. Because construction would occur within existing rights-of-way and easements, no effects on threatened or endangered species or their habitats are anticipated or likely.

The staff of the TWDB concurred with these determinations. As a result, the Executive Administrator of the Board issued a Determination of No Effect (DNE) on November 19, 2013, with the conditions specified below. That finding was sent to state and federal regulatory agencies, which provided no adverse comments. The present Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the proposed sewer system repairs is consistent with the DNE issued previously.

Categorical Exclusion is allowed because the specified project elements should not entail significant adverse impacts to the quality of the human environment or 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 CE as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC Chapter 375, Subchapter E; or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The project also must comply with the following conditions:

- Terms and conditions of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 12 for Utility Line Activities;
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

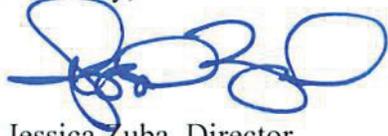
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Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Planning and Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Zuba', with several loops and flourishes.

Jessica Zuba, Director
Regional Water Planning and Development

SCC/JZ:tb

Attachments

Simms Lake

Sludge Pond Number 2

Tank Lake

Sludge Pond Number 1

Gordon Lake

Rickett Lake

Faucet Lake

Riley Chambers Community Center

Barrett

Farm-to-Market-1942

FM-1942

2100

Beaumont Hwy

Grosby-Fwy

90

Grosby Ly

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Google earth

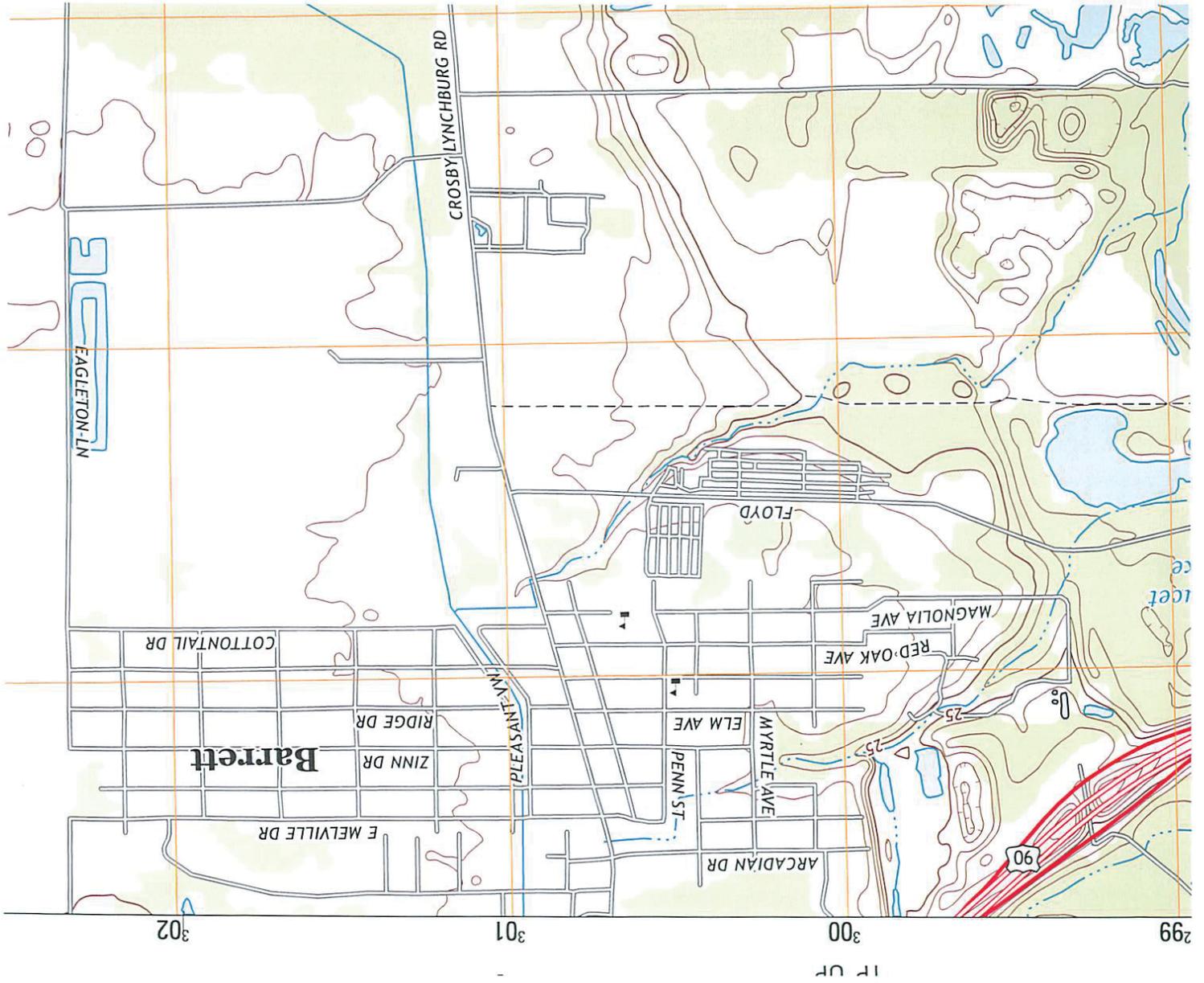
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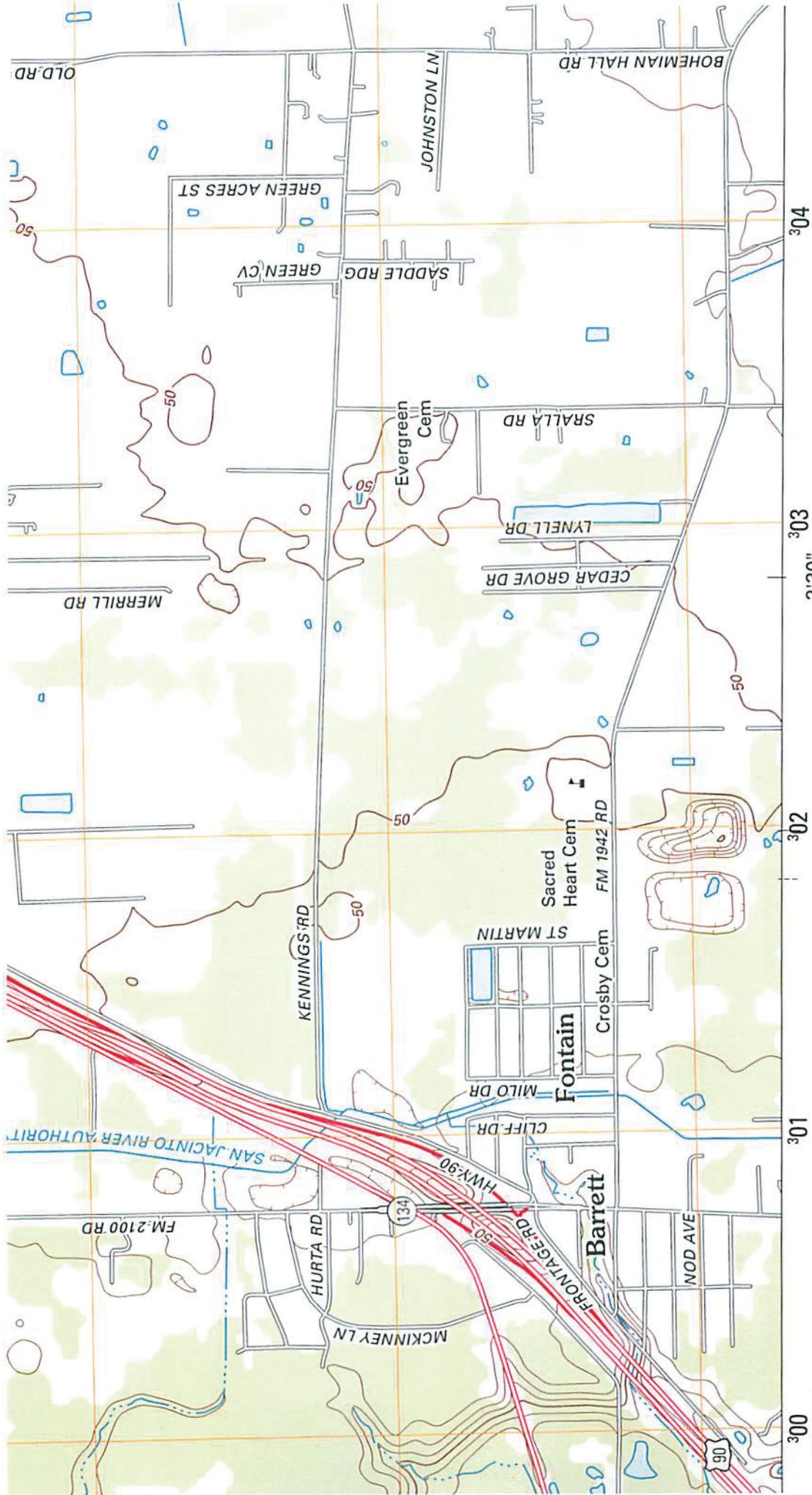
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Map Data: 4/17/2014

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