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ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

TO: File

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

DATE: April 1, 2024

RE: Greater Texoma Utility Authority, Grayson County, Texas

TWDB DFUND Project No. 21798

City of Bells Water and Wastewater System Improvements

Groundwater Well Development

Total Commitment Amount: \$7,200,000

Loan No. L1001462

An environmental review of the City of Bells (City) Water and Wastewater System Improvements Project proposed by the Greater Texoma Utility Authority (GTUA), Grayson County, Texas, has been completed consistent with the guidelines provided in 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §363.14. The GTUA, on behalf of the City, is proposing to use \$7,200,000 in financing from the Texas Water Development Fund (DFUND) to make improvements to the City's water and wastewater systems. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) committed this financing on March 3, 2022. GTUA closed the financing on June 23, 2022.

Because the proposed project components are numerous, spread throughout a large area, function independently, and require different schedules, portions of the project were and will be completed under separate environmental findings. This Environmental Determination (ED) has been prepared for the construction of a new groundwater well and storage tank at an existing elevated storage tank site at Bells Boulevard and Broadway Street.

Based on a detailed environmental review of the planning information, the Environmental Data Form received by the TWDB on January 11, 2024, with the supplementary materials submitted to the TWDB on January 30, 2024, the project meets the requirements of 31 TAC §363.14 with the following standard environmental conditions:

Standard Environmental Conditions

Environmental Determination
Greater Texoma Utility Authority, Grayson County, Texas
TWDB DFUND Project No. 21798
City of Bells Water and Wastewater System Improvements
Groundwater Well Development
March 26, 2024
Page 2

 No activity which may affect properties listed or properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or eligible for designation as a State Archeological Landmark is authorized until the Greater Texoma Utility Authority (GTUA) has complied with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas.

The GTUA has previously coordinated with the appropriate agencies and impacts to known cultural or archeological deposits have been avoided or mitigated. However, the Contractor may encounter unanticipated cultural or archeological deposits during construction.

If archeological sites or historic structures which may qualify for designation as a State Archeological Landmark according to the criteria in 13 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 26, or that may be eligible for listing on the NRHP in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800, are discovered after construction operations are begun, the Contractor shall immediately cease operations in that particular area and notify the GTUA, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the Texas Historical Commission. The Contractor shall take reasonable steps to protect and preserve the discoveries until they have been inspected by the GTUA's representative and the TWDB. The GTUA will promptly coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Officer and any other appropriate agencies to obtain any necessary approvals or permits to enable the work to continue. The Contractor shall not resume work in the area of the discovery until authorized to do so by the GTUA.

 No activity is authorized that is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species as listed or proposed for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and/or the State of Texas Parks and Wildlife Code on Endangered Species, or to destroy or adversely modify the habitat of such species.

If a threatened or endangered species is encountered during construction, the Contractor shall immediately cease work in the area of the encounter and notify the GTUA, who will immediately implement actions in accordance with the ESA and applicable State statutes. These actions shall include reporting the encounter to the TWDB, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, obtaining any necessary approvals or permits to enable the work to continue, or implement other mitigation actions. The Contractor shall not resume construction in the area of the encounter until authorized to do so by the GTUA.

With the addition of these requirements, design funds may be released once all other requirements are satisfied.



<u>LEGEND</u>

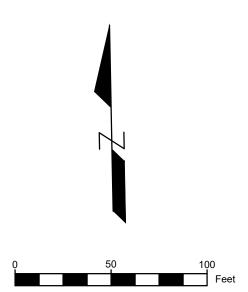
PROPOSED WATER WELL

PROPOSED STORAGE TANK

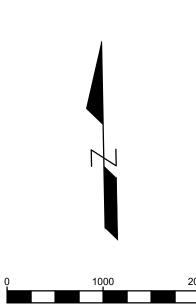
---- CITY LIMITS

- — - APPROXIMATE CONSTRUCTION LIMIT

FLOODPLAIN







NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Know what's below.
Callbefore you dig.

No. DATE REVISION DESCRIPTION

City of Bells, Texas
203 South Broadway Street
Bells, Texas, 75414





City of Bells Proposed Groundwater Well Development Floodplain Map

DATE

SHEET

EXHIBIT - D

BELLS, TX