



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 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 has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from comprehensive environmental review:

City of Daingerfield, Morris County, Texas
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 63015
Phase 2 Drinking Water System Improvements
Total Financing Amount: \$3,873,010
Loan No. L1001850, LF1001851

The City of Daingerfield (City) is proposing to use \$3,873,010 in financing from the DWSRF program for the Phase 2 Drinking Water System Improvements project to address regulatory and operational issues within their existing infrastructure. Project components will include the following:

- Replacement of existing waterlines within the existing right-of-way;
- Abandonment of existing lines;
- Rehabilitation of the existing elevated storage tank (EST) at the existing Carpenter Street water plant;
- Cleaning of the exterior of one existing ground storage tank (GST) at the Carpenter Street water plant; and
- Cleaning of the exterior of two existing GSTs at the Union Street water plant.

This Categorical Exclusion is completed for Phase 2 Drinking Water System Improvements, hereafter referred to as the proposed project. The replacement lines will be installed via open trench construction methods, with the exception of highway crossings. Trench widths for the installation of new waterlines will be approximately 5 feet wide and 5 feet deep. The replacement waterlines will generally be installed within 5 to 10 feet of the existing waterlines, depending on the specific site conditions. Existing waterlines which are to be replaced will be abandoned-in-place. Connection points from the abandoned lines to the remaining existing waterlines will be uncovered so that the connections can be cut and capped. The excavation areas for the connection points are anticipated to be approximately 5 feet wide by 5 feet deep. Replacement waterlines will either be installed under pavement or within existing previously

Our Mission

Leading the state's efforts
in ensuring a secure
water future for Texas

Board Members

L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

cleared and maintained roadside rights-of-way. Though originally included in the project's funding application, the project does not include any minor extensions of existing mains. No water crossings are anticipated within the project area. Should any impacts to potential Waters of the United States be necessary, the water crossing will be executed via trenchless construction methods. Environmental impacts will be similar to rehabilitation activities and limited to those associated with excavation, pipe installation, and road repair.

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 Old Morris County Courthouse, which is listed as a State Antiquities Landmark (SAL) within the National Register of Historic Places, is located within the vicinity of the project: south of Jefferson Street and over 50 feet south of a portion of proposed line replacement. The SAL property will not be impacted by the proposed project, including but not limited to removal, alteration, damage, salvage or excavation in any way. Since the replacement lines are not adjacent to the courthouse, will be located within the same easement as the existing lines, and contours will be returned to pre-construction conditions after construction is complete, no coordination was required. Should proposed project alignments change, coordination with the Texas Historical Commission may be required.

The proposed project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. However, the City has stated that should any impacts to potential Waters of the U.S. become necessary, any creek crossings will be made via trenchless construction methods and all work will be performed in compliance with Nationwide Permit 58 for Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances from the United States Army Corps of Engineers, including remaining below impact thresholds to require Pre-Construction Notification (PCN). Though one segment of the existing lines proposed to be abandoned in place is partially within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplain, no surface impacts are planned within the floodplain. The remainder of the project, including all connection points and new line replacements, is located outside Special Flood Hazard Areas; therefore, coordination with the local floodplain administrator is not required. Finally, the proposed project does not include tree clearing or stream crossings; the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

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 TWDB previously recommended issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for this project. 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 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 special and standard environmental conditions:

Special Environmental Conditions

- In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas, the Old Morris County Courthouse property will not be impacted, either permanently or temporarily, by the project via removal, alteration, damage, salvage or excavation. Should project alignment in the vicinity of the courthouse change, coordination with the Texas Historical Commission will be required.
- Though the project does not include any planned impacts to water features, including wetlands, should any temporary impacts become necessary during construction to potential waters of the U.S., including wetlands, impacts will remain below thresholds to require a pre-construction notification (PCN) to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Nationwide Permit (NWP) 58 as defined by NWP General Condition 32 (impacts must remain below 500 linear feet or 0.10-acre). The project will remain consistent with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and conditions of USACE NWP 58 for Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances. Should project alignments or impacts change, the TWDB will be notified and any necessary USACE coordination requirements completed.

Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the City of Daingerfield 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 of Daingerfield will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

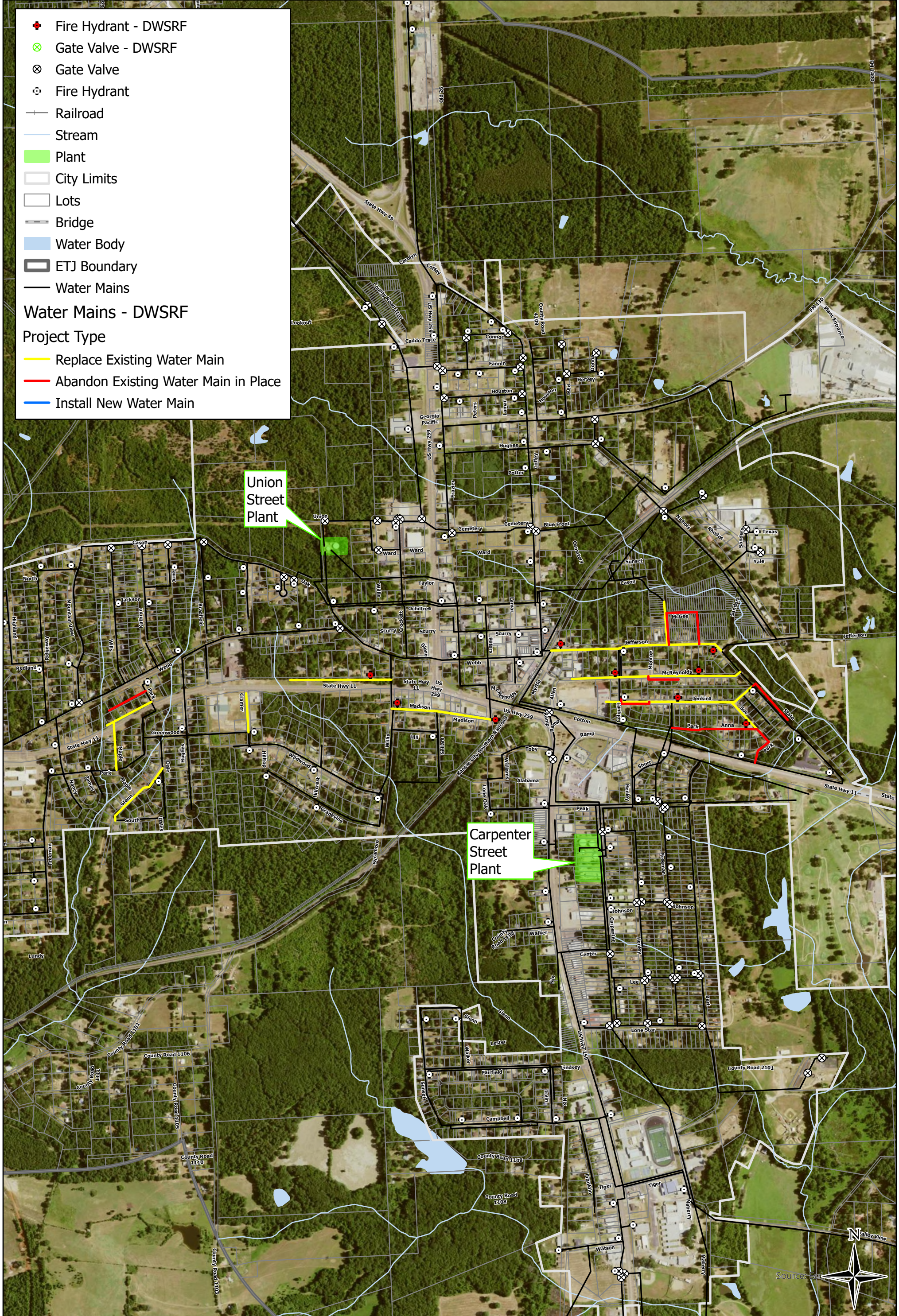
Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures

- Fire Hydrant - DWSRF
 - Gate Valve - DWSRF
 - Gate Valve
 - Fire Hydrant
 - Railroad
 - Stream
 - Plant
 - City Limits
 - Lots
 - Bridge
 - Water Body
 - ETJ Boundary
 - Water Mains
- Water Mains - DWSRF**
- Project Type**
- Replace Existing Water Main
 - Abandon Existing Water Main in Place
 - Install New Water Main



Union Street Plant

Carpenter Street Plant

