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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 Dublin, Erath County, Texas
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 63086
Water System Improvements
Total Financing Amount: \$2,567,669
Loan Nos. L1002260, LF1002261, LF1002262

The City of Dublin (City) is proposing to use \$2,567,669 in financing from the DWSRF program for the Water System Improvements project to replace approximately 6,100 linear feet of existing 14-inch water transmission line with new PVC along with valves, fire hydrants as flush valves and other ancillary components necessary to complete the installation.

This Categorical Exclusion is completed for Water System Improvements and is hereafter referred to as the proposed project.

Existing lines will be replaced by new lines in the same or proximate locations. The existing lines will either be removed or abandoned in place. Environmental impacts will be similar to rehabilitation activities and limited to those associated with excavation, pipe installation, and road repair. In some cases, the depth of excavation may be greater than the existing pipe and the location of the replacement pipe may not be immediately adjacent to the existing line (e.g., opposite side of street).

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.

Our Mission

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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 Texas Historical Commission provided a determination dated October 29, 2025 (Tracking No. 202600997) that confirmed that no historic properties are present on or affected by the proposed project. The proposed project will not adversely impact waters of the United States (WOTUS), including wetlands. There will be two intermittent stream crossings, Dublin and Resley Creek. Both streams will be installed using trenchless methods to avoid potential WOTUS impacts. Resley Creek will be crossed within the pavement via directional boring below the surface but above the stream, and Dublin Creek will be crossed with directional boring. The proposed project appears to be partially within a 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Projects involving construction in the 100-year floodplain, including replacement or borings, require a floodplain development permit from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in the 100-year floodplain. In addition, the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat. The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) provided a determination dated December 4, 2025, that confirmed that TPWD does not anticipate significant adverse impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species, or other fish and wildlife resources (TPWD No. 57351).

The staff of 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

- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, federal Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section 16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in, across, or under a

Special Flood Hazard Area and TWDB approval of plans and specifications, and any requirements contained therein will be adhered to.

Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550, the City of Dublin (City) will abide by the standard emergency conditions for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the City will abide by the standard emergency conditions 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

