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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) § 375.61 , for projects to be funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) 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 Pearsall, Frio County, Texas
TWDB CWSRF Project No. 73997
Pearsall Wastewater Improvements
CID 01 – I-35 Annex Sanitary Improvements and Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation
Total Financing Amount: \$16,102,813
Loan No. L1002274, L1002275, LF1002276

The City of Pearsall (City) is proposing to use \$16,102,813 in financing from the CWSRF program for the I-35 Annex Sanitary Improvements and Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation project to (1) Install approximately 15,000 linear ft of 8-inch PVC gravity sanitary sewer pipe; (2) Install approximately 1,000 linear ft of 4-inch PVC force main. In addition, the proposed wastewater rehabilitation portion of the project includes (1) flowmeter replacement; (2) electrical upgrades; (3) installation of automatic bar screen and belt press; (4) panel upgrades; (5) variable frequency drives; (6) slow starts; (7) samplers; (8) generator or quick connection on the lift station; (9) SCADA system; and (10) Asset Management Plan.

This Categorical Exclusion is completed for the I-35 Annex Sanitary Improvements and Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation project, 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).

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

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.

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 letter dated November 26, 2024 (Tracking No. 202503122) 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, including wetlands. The proposed project is not located within a Special Flood Hazard Area; therefore, coordination with the local floodplain administrator was not required. In addition, the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat. In an email received on December 11, 2024, from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), it stated that TPWD does not anticipate that the proposed wastewater system improvement project will have significant adverse impacts on rare, threatened, or endangered species or other fish and wildlife resources.

The TWDB 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 § 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 special and standard environmental conditions:

Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550, the City of Pearsall (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.

Categorical Exclusion
City of Pearsall, Frio County, Texas
TWDB CWSRF Project No. 73997
Pearsall Wastewater Improvements
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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 RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

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

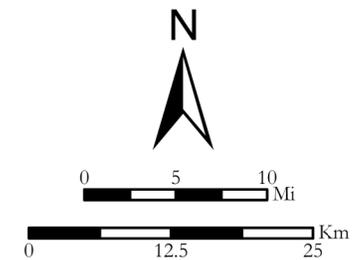
Enclosures



Legend

-  Sanitary Sewer Line and Force Main
-  Lift Stations
-  Aggregate, Spoils and Materials Site
-  Easements

I-35 Annex Sanitary Improvements and Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation - Sanitary Sewer Lines and Force Main





Legend

-  Pearsall WWTP
-  Easements

I-35 Annex Sanitary Improvements and
Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation
- Wastewater Treatment Plant

