



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BIO-SOLIDS STORAGE IMPROVEMENTS & FRONT END LOADER PLANNING AND DESIGN
ADDENDUM #15
SRF # WW05 16 45 02

Date: February 25, 2011

Target Project Approval Date: February 28, 2011

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the Hammond Sanitary District's Bio-solids Storage Improvements Planning and Design, Addendum #15 to its Preliminary Engineering Report dated January 19, 2011 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an EA or an EIS.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-232-8623; mhensche@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Hammond Sanitary District
Biosolids Storage Improvements & Front End
Loader Planning and Design
Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #15
5143 Columbia Avenue
Hammond, IN. 46327-1794

SRF Project Number: WW05 16 45 02

Authorized Representative: Dr. Michael T. Unger, District Manager

II. PROJECT LOCATION

No construction activity or equipment purchase will take place with this project. The project proposes only planning and design services related to refurbishing the existing biosolids storage building, expansion of biosolids storage, and miscellaneous appurtenances, as well as the specifications for a three-cubic yard front end loader.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to plan and design the expansion and refurbishing of the biosolids storage building, along with the equipment specification preparation for a front end loader to be used in the biosolids process. At a minimum, the design may address extension of the existing biosolids storage building, structural modifications to that building, and extension of the solids conveyor.

There are no feasible alternatives to the proposed action. The "no-action" alternative was rejected, since the need for expansion of the biosolids storage building would not be addressed.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COST, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

The estimated project cost is \$89,970. The Hammond Sanitary District will use funds from its existing SRF Loan # WW05 16 45 02 for this planning and design project; \$4,986,787 remains unspent in that loan as of this date. Monthly user rates will not have to be adjusted. After public bids are received for the construction project and equipment purchase, the city will use additional funds from the same SRF loan to finance the construction of the biosolids storage improvements project and equipment purchase; that construction project will go through an environmental, technical and financial review coordinated by the SRF Loan Program.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The planning and design project will have no physical impact on the environment. Consistent with the implementing regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, the SRF has determined that the proposed undertaking is not a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects to historic properties.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The proposed project was discussed at a publicly noticed Board of Sanitary Commissioners meeting on December 14, 2010 at the Hammond Sanitary District Office.