State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

CITY OF TERRE HAUTE
PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR
PHASES 2 & 3 OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS
SRF # WW 10 05 84 01

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 correspondence from the city of Terre Haute dated February 11, 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 at ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	City of Terre Haute Planning and Design for Wastewater Treatment Plant Additions and Improvements, Phases 2 & 3 17 Harding Street Terre Haute, IN 47807
SRF Project Number:	WW10 05 84 01
Authorized Representative:	Leslie Ellis, City Controller

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The project proposes planning and design for additions and improvements at the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Phase 2 will consist of improvements to the existing primary clarifiers, existing aeration tank upgrades, new aeration tanks, upgrades to the existing secondary clarifiers, two new secondary clarifiers, new blower building, new return activated sludge building, liner replacement in the existing equalization basins, new sludge processing building, liquid sludge storage, odor control, new administration building/laboratory building, upgrades to the operations/maintenance building, and new septic/grease receiving structure. Phase 3 will include conversion to ultra-violet disinfection system, additional blowers, additional liquid sludge storage, additional sludge processing equipment, and additional maintenance building.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to design the upgrade to the WWTP for additional wet weather treatment capacity and to design improvements to replace equipment and processes that have gone beyond their useful life and that are no longer viable and cost-effective to operate and maintain.

There are no feasible alternatives to the proposed action. The "no-action" alternative was rejected, since the need for the additions and improvements at the existing WWTP would not be addressed.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

The estimated project cost for both phases is $11,824,000. Phase 2 design, planning and bidding services is $9,424,000. Phase 3 design, planning and bidding services is $2,400,000. Terre Haute will finance the planning and design of both phases with a 20-year

loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program at an interest rate determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates will need to be evaluated to determine if an adjustment is necessary for loan repayment. After public bids are received for the construction projects, the city will close on additional SRF funding to fund the construction of the Phase 2 and 3 WWTP additions and improvements; those construction projects will go through an environmental, technical and financial review coordinated by the SRF programs.

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 properly noticed public hearing on October 12, 2010 at 2 pm in the Terre Haute City Hall.