



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 ELWOOD
Plant Improvements and Rehabilitation and Maintenance Building
SRF # DW09134801

Date: May 4, 2009

Target Project Approval Date: May 5, 2009

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Elwood Preliminary Engineering Report submitted to the SRF on March 13, 2009 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 (NEPA) 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:

Amy Henninger, Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-232-6566; ahenning at ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: City of Elwood
Water Plant Improvements and Rehabilitation,
Maintenance Building
1505 South "B" Street
Elwood, IN 46036-2020

SRF Project Number: DW 09134801

Authorized Representative: Mr. W. Merrill Taylor, Mayor

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Elwood is located at the intersection of State Road 13 and State Road 28 in Madison County. The project is at various locations throughout the City of Elwood in T21N, R6E, Sections 9,10,11,16,22, and 21 of the Elwood USGS quadrangle as shown on Figure 2. All improvements will take place within existing WTP property boundaries or well site boundaries.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

1. South "B" Street Maintenance Building – The purpose of the Maintenance Building is in assisting the maintaining the water quality of the distribution system. The existing maintenance building is too small and does not provide adequate covered storage of PVC piping materials. The water utility needs an adequately sized building to store materials and vehicles to properly maintain the system.
2. South "B" Street Water Treatment Plant (WTP) – An additional high service pump is being installed at this WTP to meet current rules for redundant pumping units. The building structure was built in 1953. The general life expectancy of a structure of this nature is 30-40 years. The doors will be replaced because they have rusted out and a dehumidifier will be installed to reduce humidity within the building and therefore protecting the metal components and electrical equipment from damage.
3. Rehabilitation of Wells #1, #2 #4, #9 and #10 – Wells #1, #2, and #4 are located at the South "B" Street WTP which were constructed in 1953. Wells #0 and #10 are located at the South "P" Street WTP and were constructed in 1976. All of these well locations have a brick well house that was constructed over the actual well, that have structurally deteriorated over time. These well house structures will be removed and to prevent storm water runoff from entering the wells and potentially contaminating those wells a pitless adaptor will be installed over each well.
4. South "P" Street WTP – the horizontal filters at this facility will be replaced because the existing

filters have been repaired several times and the cost to repair the metal filter structures is exceeding the cost of total replacement. The replacement will provide the utility with a reliable WTP.

5. Master Meter Replacement – The existing five meters at the WTP’s are an old venture style meter that are inaccurate in measuring the flows and the repair parts are difficult to locate. The meters will be replaced in order to proper measure flow and to help determine water loss flows so that the utility can further locate and minimize the lost water and its associated revenue loss.
6. South “P” Street WTP Detention Tank Repair – The existing detention tank is showing detrimental effects from excessive water seepage through the concrete wall in the forms of flaking and cracking of the exterior surface. To remedy the situation from progressing and to extend the useful life of the detention tank these defects must be repaired by waterproofing the exterior of the detention tank.
7. South “B” Street WTP Chlorination System Upgrade – The existing chlorination system area does not meet current OSHA regulations and a need for a better process control system. Therefore, the chlorine system is going to be upgraded by providing for isolation, detection, ventilation and staff safety for a chlorine room, providing a separate chlorine room with a dedicated feed system.
8. Test Wells and Hydrological Study and Additional Water Resource Study – These studies are necessary to locate and determine additional supplies of groundwater for future use.
9. Leak Detection Survey – The utility is currently experiencing a greater than 35 percent unaccounted water loss. To reduce this percentage to an acceptable level a leak detection survey needs to be conducted to locate distribution leaks, thereby reducing the water loss and lost revenues.
10. System Mapping – Over the years the utility has not kept very good location maps of the distribution system. This leads to inefficiencies in utility operations during normal and emergencies. To minimize this problem a distribution system mapping will be conducted.

IV. PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

	ESTIMATED COST
“B” Street Plant Improvements	\$ 499,000
“P” Street Plant Improvements	776,000
Master Meter Replacements	44,000
Automatic Meter Reading System	31,000
Maintenance Building	330,000
Test Wells and Hydrological Study	34,331
Water Resource Study	31,000
Leak Detection Survey	15,000
System Mapping	80,000
Study and Construction Total	\$1,840,331

Non-Construction Costs	\$ <u>459,669</u>
Total Estimated Project Costs	\$2,300,000

- B. Elwood will finance the project with a 20-year loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program at an interest rate to be determined at the time of loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Environmental impacts will be minimal. The projects will be constructed on previously disturbed land at the WTP, well sites and in existing structures. The project will not affect streams, wetlands, wooded areas, the 100-year floodplain or the Lake Michigan Coastal Management Zone. The Natural Resources Conservation Service has indicated that the projects will not convert prime farmland. These projects have no potential to affect historic sites (see figures 8 and 9). The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on March 18, 2009 at 4:30 pm at the Elwood City Hall, Court Room, 1505 South "B" Street in Elwood. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing.