



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs
Drinking Water, Clean Water, Nonpoint Source

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

**TOWN OF SPENCER
TEXAS PIKE SANITARY SEWER PROJECT
SRF Project WW 22 31 60 05**

DATE: September 27, 2022

TARGET PROJECT APPROVAL DATE: October 27, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

The above entity has applied to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program for a loan to finance all or part of the wastewater project described in the accompanying Environmental Assessment (EA). As part of facilities planning requirements, an environmental review has been completed which addresses the project's impacts on the natural and human environment. This review is summarized in the attached EA, which can also be viewed at www.in.gov/ifa/srf.

II. PRELIMINARY FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FNSI)

The Clean Water SRF Loan Program has evaluated all pertinent environmental information regarding the proposed project and determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary. Subject to responses received during the 30-day public comment period, and pursuant to Indiana Code 5-1.2-3, it is our preliminary finding that the construction and operation of the proposed facilities will result in no significant adverse environmental impact. In the absence of significant comments, the attached EA shall serve as the final environmental document.

III. COMMENTS

All interested parties may comment upon the EA/FNSI. Comments must be received at the address below by the target approval date above. Significant comments may prompt a reevaluation of the preliminary FNSI; if appropriate, a new FNSI will be issued for another 30-day public comment period. A final decision to proceed, or not to proceed, with the proposed project shall be achieved by finalizing, or not finalizing, the FNSI as appropriate. Comments regarding this document should be sent within 30 days to:

Amy Henninger
Compliance Officer
State Revolving Fund Loan Programs
100 N. Senate Ave. IGCN 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-6566
ahenning@ifa.in.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Texas Pike Sanitary Sewer Project
Town of Spencer
90 N West Street
Spencer, IN 47460

SRF Project Number: **WW 22 31 60 05**

Authorized Representative: Mr. Jon Stantz, Town Council President

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in the Town of Spencer in Owen County. The Texas Pike project will be constructed in the Spencer USGS 24K Quad, Township 10N, Range 3W.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

A development is platted near the Town of Spencer. The subdivision is proposed to be located just northwest of the Town. Currently this area is unsewered and will require sanitary sewer infrastructure.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Texas Pike Sanitary Sewer Expansion project will install a new sanitary sewer lift station and force main will be constructed to provide sanitary sewer service to an unsewered area plated for development to the northwest of the Town. See Figure 1.

V. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

Construction Costs

Texas Pike Sanitary Sewer Project	\$ 736,950
Contingency	\$ 74,000
Construction Sub-Total	\$ 811,000

Non-Construction Costs	\$ 224,300
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Total Estimated Project Cost	\$ 1,035,000
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- B. The Town of Spencer will finance the project with a loan from the SRF Loan Program for a term and annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing. The actual loan amount will depend on the bids received. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

VI. DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATED ALTERNATIVES

The “**No Action**” alternative is not a feasible alternative because the area will be developed as platted and remain unsewered.

Construct New Gravity Sewer: This alternative would construct a new gravity sewer to collect flows from the development and convey flows to the existing sanitary sewer system. Due to the elevation of proposed development and location and inverts of the existing sanitary sewer, this is not a feasible alternative.

Construct New Lift Station and Pump Flow to the East to Existing Sanitary Sewer System: This alternative will construct a new 350 gpm sanitary sewer lift station on the Texas Pike subdivision property. The lift station would be sized to accommodate flow from the Texas Pike subdivision and surrounding areas. A new force main would be constructed to the east to tie to an existing 8” gravity sewer.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

A. Direct Impacts of Construction and Operation

Disturbed/Undisturbed Land: The proposed improvements will take place in previously undisturbed areas. An Archaeology Survey was performed, and no archaeological sites were located in the proposed project area.

Structural Resources: The proposed construction is not expected to structurally affect existing buildings designated as Historic.

Surface Waters: The project will not adversely affect waters of high quality listed in 327 IAC 2-1-2(3), exceptional use streams listed in 327 IAC 2-1-11(b), Natural, Scenic and Recreational Rivers and Streams listed in 312 IAC 7-(2), Salmonid Streams listed in (327 IAC 2-1.5-5(a)(3), or waters on the Outstanding Rivers list (Natural Resources Commission Non-rule Policy Document).

Wetlands: A wetland delineation of the project area was completed on October 6, 2021, for the Texas Pike development area. The crossing of the intermittent stream will be installed using directional drilling to reduce impacts. The lift station and force main will not be installed in areas identified as wetlands.

Floodplain: The project is designed to avoid the 100-year floodplain and no permanent structure will be located in the 100-year floodplain. See Figure 2.

Groundwater: Groundwater will not be negatively impacted by the construction or operation of the proposed project. Dewatering in areas of high-water table are not expected to cause long-term impacts. Appropriate mitigation steps will be taken. The project will not impact a sole source aquifer.

Plants and Animals: The project will be constructed in areas previously cleared for agricultural use and no tree removal will be necessary to complete the project.

Prime Farmland: The project will be installed in agricultural areas. Consultation with the NRCS on prime farmland conversion began August 8, 2022.

Air Quality: Air quality will be temporarily impacted by construction activities, including vehicle exhaust and dust. Mitigation measures to reduce noise, dust, and airborne contaminants will be implemented as required by necessary permits.

Open Space and Recreational Opportunities: The construction and operation of the proposed project will neither create nor destroy open space or recreational opportunities.

National Natural Landmarks: Construction and operation of the proposed project will not affect National Natural Landmarks.

B. Indirect Impacts

The Town of Spencer's PER states: *The Town will ensure, through local zoning laws or other means, that future development, as well as future wastewater infrastructure projects connecting to SRF-funded facilities, will not adversely affect wetlands, wooded areas, steep slopes, archaeological/ historical/ structural resources, or other sensitive environmental resources. The Town will require new development and infrastructure projects to be constructed within the guidelines of the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, IDNR, IDEM and other environmental review authorities.*

C. Comments from Environmental Review Authorities

In correspondence dated May 5, 2021, the Natural Resources Conservation Service stated of the overall project: *The proposed Texas Pike Offsite Lift Station project for the Town of Spencer in Owen County, Indiana as referred to in your letter received August 8, 2022, will cause a conversion of prime farmland.*

This document is the first notice of the Texas Pike Sanitary Sewer project to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the DNR Environmental Unit, and the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology.

VIII. MITIGATION MEASURES

The Town of Spencer's PER states:

Mitigation measures cited in any comment letters received from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be implemented.

The majority of the environmental impacts will occur during construction ...and be temporary in nature... Provisions will be included in the construction specification to limit such problems and to provide erosion control in accordance with current state standards. The work is expected to be completed during normal working hours, restricting any work-related nuisances to those hours. All construction equipment will be required to have mufflers to reduce noise pollution. Additionally reasonable and proper construction techniques and clean up practices will be required by the contractor to reduce dust emissions. Proper surface wetting practices will be required.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held at 6pm on April 18, 2022, at the Spencer Municipal Building, N 90 West ST, Spencer, IN. There were no concerns related to this project expressed during the hearing and no written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing for this project.

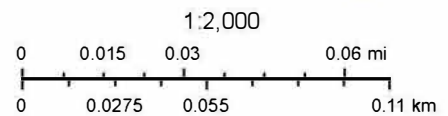
Map of Flood Hazard



September 20, 2022

Floodplains - FIRM (Mar 2020)

- Floodway
- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- 0.2% Annual Chance, Protected by Levee
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- NAIP Imagery (2018) Placeholder
- Impaired Streams - TMDL (IDEM, 2018)



Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Water Quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 U.S. Geological Survey
 National Resource Commission
 Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), U.S. Census Bureau (USCB)