

February 15, 2017

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the state environmental review process adopted in the rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 371, subchapter E, for projects to be funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code §4321, et seq., the Executive Administrator of the Board has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

City of Montgomery, Montgomery County, Texas
Water System Improvements Project
DWSRF Project No. 62715
Total Estimated TWDB Commitment: \$1,730,000

The City of Montgomery is proposing to use funding from a \$1,730,000 DWSRF loan to conduct improvements to their existing water system. Specifically, the City is proposing: (1) to construct one additional 10,000 gallon hydropneumatic tank, one 210,000 gallon ground storage tank, and one additional cooling tower at the City's existing Water Treatment Plant No. 3; and (2) to replace existing distribution lines and construct minor extensions of lines to connect to existing lines within City rights-of-way. In addition, the project will require valves, fittings, and all necessary appurtenances, including pavement repairs. This loan will fund the planning, design, and construction phases of this project.

All work will be conducted within existing facility sites or previously disturbed areas. 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 should be similar to rehabilitation activities and limited to those associated with excavation, pipe installation, and road repair. According to the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, there are no previously-recorded significant or potentially significant sites on or adjacent to the project site, nor is the site within a protected area surrounding an historic cemetery, structure or district. According to a desktop analysis of the United States Geological Survey, National Hydrography Dataset and available topographic maps, no streams or potential wetland features were identified within the project area. Therefore, the project is not likely to adversely impact wetlands or waters of the U.S. that are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, construction within existing facility sites or previously disturbed areas is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

This decision is allowed because the specified project elements should not entail significant adverse impacts to the quality of the human environment. 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 a CE as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC Chapter 371, Subchapter E; or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The project also must comply with the following conditions:

- standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and
- standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

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.