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July 5, 2022

Ms. Jenny Paquet
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

Re: Categorical Exclusion request for the Warwick Sewer Authority
Collection System Pipeline improvements
Amtrak Interceptor Crossing - Contact No. 103

Dear Ms. Paquet,

The Warwick Sewer Authority (WSA) is applying for a loan under the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. This letter will serve as a request for a Categorical Exclusion (CE) from the formal Environmental Review Process under the provisions of the Rules and Regulations for the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program (250-RICR-150-20-1). A Categorical Exclusion is defined as a category of project which does not individually or cumulatively have significant effects on the environment.

Collection System Improvements

The Warwick Sewer Authority (WSA) is proposing to rehabilitate an existing sewer interceptor main located under the Amtrak railroad lines within the vicinity of Michigan Avenue. The project consists of relining approximately 500 linear feet of 48-inch interceptor main utilizing a cured-in-place structural pipe liner. The work also includes manhole restoration, temporary bypass pumping, and site restoration. The pipe work will be performed via accessing the existing manholes. A temporary bypass to divert sewer flow will be required to facilitate the relining process. The temporary bypass will be placed at grade except at roadway and driveway crossings where the pipe will be placed approximate 6 to 12-inches below existing grade.

Project alternatives were considered for this project however to avoid a major impact to the residents and businesses the proposed cured-in-place structural pipe liner was determined to be the most economical and technically feasible method.

There are no foreseen negative impacts associated with this project. The project proposes to rehabilitate the assets in their current location. Specifically, the proposed project is not anticipated to negatively impact the following.

1. **State Guide Plan Consistency:** The Warwick Sewer Authority is undertaking this project to maintain uninterrupted wastewater transportation to the treatment facility. The rehabilitation of these pipelines will restore structural integrity to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and to continue conformance to regulatory treatment and discharge permits.
2. **Clean Air Act, Safe Drinking Water Act:** The project as proposed will not have an impact on air quality, nor drinking water.
3. **National Historic Preservation Act, Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act:** There are no known historical buildings or archaeological resources in the vicinity of the project. The proposed work will take place on previously disturbed areas.
4. **Coastal Zone Management Act, Coastal Barriers Resources Act:** The project location, is not located in a coastal zone. The proposed work will take place on previously disturbed areas.
5. **Endangered Species Act:** The proposed work will take place at the wastewater treatment facility on previously disturbed areas. There will be no impact to endangered species.
6. **Transportation Act:** The proposed project will have temporary traffic impacts to facilitate installation of a temporary bypass pipe needed to eliminate flow during pipe relining. Traffic patterns will be detoured during installation of the at grade bypass pipe. Once the repair is complete the bypass will be removed and traffic restored to existing conditions.
7. **Farmland Protection Policy Act:** The project as proposed will not have an impact to any farmland.
8. **Essential Fish Habitat:** The proposed projects are intended to improve water treatment. Negative impacts to fish habitat are not anticipated.
9. **Protection of Wetlands and Flood Plain Management:** The proposed work will take place in the identified city project area on previously disturbed areas. There will be no impact to wetlands and the project is located outside of Flood Plain.
10. **Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:** - The project is not located in the vicinity of a waterbody classified as Wild and Scenic.

Warwick Sewer Authority


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Date: July 5, 2022