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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION SUMMARY AND NOTIFICATION

Purpose

This memo documents for the project file the justification for granting a Categorical Exclusion.

Background

The City of Oxford, (Project No. 24-075), located in Izard County, is proposing the replacement of the existing wastewater treatment facility. The new treatment units would be appropriately sized to handle the flow needed at the facility. In addition, the proposed treatment facility would include necessary processes to treat the wastewater for all the effluent parameters in the facility's NPDES discharge permit. Today's technology allows the footprint of the proposed treatment facility to occupy less space than the existing components. Therefore, the new plant can be constructed on the property already disturbed and owned by the City and move into operation before the existing plant is taken out of service. The discharge location will not change because of the proposed project.

This alternative will allow the City of Oxford to improve functionality of its treatment plant and become compliant with its NPDES permit.

This project qualifies as a CE in that is an action relating to existing infrastructure systems (such as sewer systems; drinking water supply systems; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) that involve minor upgrading, or minor expansion of system capacity or rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) or construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities. This category does not include actions that: involve new or relocated discharges to surface or ground water; will likely result in the substantial increase in the volume or the loading of pollutant to the receiving water; will provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; are not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy; or directly or indirectly involve or relate to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development.

No extraordinary circumstances found in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §6.204 apply to this proposed action.

Key Points

1. Review completed by Keith Sanders
2. Determination approved by Keith Sanders

Recommendation

The proposed project has been determined to be categorically excluded from the full and substantive environmental review process as part of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission's State Revolving Fund program. The proposed project meets the requirements for a CE found in 40 CFR Part 6, Subpart B,

§6.204 of the Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Protection Act Environmental Review Procedures.