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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 Bald Knob, (Project No. TBA), located in White County, is proposing to carry out the request of the Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (E & E), placed on the City in 2022, to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address violations of their effluent discharge limitations. This eventually resulted in the City exploring all matters regarding their collection system resulting in several studies being conducted to derive at a plan to correct the problems. The purpose of this project is to carry out the needed rehabilitation and repairs of the sewer collection system as identified from these studies. The City is proposing to carry out the needed rehabilitation and repairs to the existing sewer collection system. The proposed project will include extensive cleaning, repair, and replacement of affected areas of the gravity sewer main throughout the collection system. The majority of proposed project locations are located south of US-67, with one section north of US-67. Project locations include both commercial and residential areas.

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.