



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

May 13, 2019

Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact

**Village of Woodville – Sandusky County
Water Treatment Plant Improvements
Loan number: FS391013-0013**

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a water treatment plant chemical feed and mechanical improvements project in Woodville which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency intends to finance through its Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) below-market interest rate revolving loan program. The LER describes the project, its costs, and expected environmental benefits. Making available this LER fulfills Ohio EPA's environmental review and public notice requirements for this loan program, as described in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-150-05.

Ohio EPA analyzes environmental effects of proposed projects as part of its WSRLA program review and approval process. We have concluded that the proposed project should not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. This project's relatively narrow scope and lack of environmental impacts qualifies it for the LER rather than a more comprehensive Environmental Assessment, as described in OAC 3745-150-06. More information can be obtained by calling or writing the person named at the end of the attached LER.

Upon issuance of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) determination, award of funds may proceed without further environmental review or public comment unless new information shows that environmental conditions of the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry Rouch", is written over a horizontal line.

Handwritten initials "fo" in blue ink, with a checkmark-like flourish below them.

Jerry Rouch, Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

Attachment

LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project Identification

Project: Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Applicant: Keith Kruse, Village Administrator
Village of Woodville
P.O. Box 156
219 West Main Street
Woodville, Ohio 43469

Loan Number: FS391013-0013

Project Summary

The Village of Woodville is seeking approximately \$1,620,000 in a construction loan from Ohio EPA's Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) to finance improvements to the water treatment plant (WTP). Improvements include automating several WTP operations to allow the plant to run longer and more efficiently.

History & Existing Conditions

The Village of Woodville has a population of approximately 2,135 residents. The Village obtains its raw water from nine groundwater wells in four well fields. The Village owns, operates, and maintains a 1.0 million gallon per day (MGD) treatment plant. The Village has 100,000 gallons of elevated water storage and 200,000 gallons of underground water storage.

Treatment consists of softening, coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, pH adjustment, filtration, disinfection, and fluoridation. The chemical feed includes alum, lime, soda ash, carbon dioxide, phosphates, chlorine, and fluoride. Currently, the chemical feed is manually operated, which requires staff to be present 24 hours at the treatment facility.

Project Description

The proposed improvements to the filtration system include the replacement of filter media in three existing filters. New filter media will have increased anthracite depth, sands, and gravel. The chlorine treatment will be switched from the existing gaseous chlorine feed to a sodium hypochlorite feed system. The proposal replaces an existing carbon dioxide storage tank with a larger capacity tank. The storage tank will utilize the existing concrete pad that is externally located at the treatment plant. The improvements to the lime and soda ash feed facilities include new hoppers, feeders, storage tanks, and feed pumps that will be automated to provide constant feed. Improvements to the alum feed system will consist of a new 550-gallon storage tank, a new 55-gallon day tank on an 800-pound scale, and three new pumps with higher capacity. A proposed polyphosphate feed facility will be installed in the chemical building. A natural gas generator will be installed in the generator room for standby power.

Implementation

The Water Treatment Plant Improvements will cost approximately \$1.95 million, Funding for the project consists a \$325,000 grant from Ohio Public Works Commission, the remaining amount (approx. \$1,620,000) will be borrowed from the WSRLA program with the Economic Affordability interest rate of 1.37%. During the 20-year loan period, Woodville will save approximately \$330,000 by borrowing WSRLA dollars at this rate compared to the market rate of 3.12%.

The Median Household Income (MHI) of Woodville is \$50,676. The average annual water bill is \$490 which represents 1.0% of the MHI and is considered affordable.

The loan is expected to be awarded at the May 2019 OWDA Board meeting. Construction is to begin in spring of 2019 with completion by the end of 2019. The loan repayment will begin July 2020.

Public Participation

The village administrator and fiscal officer discussed the project and project loan at Village Council meetings throughout 2017 and 2018. Given the limited potential environmental impact of the project, the lack of a rate increase and the lack of property assessments, this is considered adequate public participation.

Conclusion

The proposed project meets the project type criteria for a Limited Environmental Review (LER); namely, it is an action within an existing water treatment system, which involves the functional replacement of and improvements to existing mechanical equipment contained within the footprint of the water treatment plant. Furthermore, the project meets the other qualifying criteria for an LER; specifically, the proposed project:

- **will have no significant environmental effect**, since sensitive resources such as floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, prime or unique agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, archaeological or historically significant sites, or threatened or endangered species are not present in the project area.
- **will require no specific impact mitigation**, as the proposed project involves the replacement of existing water treatment components such as pumps, storage tanks, feed facilities, and other essential and electronic equipment on site.
- **will have no effect on high-value environmental resources**, as the project area is restricted within the boundaries of the water treatment plant building or existing concrete platforms, so no high value environmental resources are present there.
- **is cost-effective** because it will upgrade pertinent components to the water treatment plant and allow for an automated treatment that would reduce staffing overnight.
- **is not a controversial action** because the project will have no impact on water rates.

- **does not create a new, or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters, and does not create a new source of water withdrawals from either surface or ground waters, or significantly increase the amount of water withdrawn from an existing water source, or substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters** since the proposed improvements to the treatment processes at the plant do not involve a discharge point or include increases in volume.
- **will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population** as the project improvements were designed based on the plant's current maximum capacity with no effect on demand or treatment capacity.

The planning activities for the project have identified no potentially significant adverse impacts. The project is expected to have no significant short-term or long-term adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment or on sensitive resources (surface waters, coastal zones, floodplains, wetlands, state-designated scenic or recreational rivers, prime or unique agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, archaeologically or historically significant sites, threatened or endangered species, or state and federal wildlife areas). Implementation of appropriate construction mitigation measures is required by the contract specifications and construction activity will be limited to the existing footprint of the WTP. The project will benefit the Woodville WTP system by improving treatment and automating processes for more efficient operations.

Contact info

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Figure 1: Project Location



Figure 2: Detailed Project Map

