



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK
DIRECTOR

November 18, 2022

TO: All Interested Citizens, Organizations, and Government Agencies

SUBJECT: FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority
Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Project Number 5818-01

The purpose of this memorandum is to seek public comment on a preliminary decision by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required to implement recommendations presented in a wastewater project plan submitted by the above-referenced applicant.

The decision by EGLE is based on its review of the proposed project using an array of federal and state criteria regarding the environment and public health, including Part 53, Clean Water Assistance, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, being Sections 324.5301 to 324.5316 of the Michigan Compiled Laws Annotated. EGLE has determined that potential impacts to the natural and human environments either have been eliminated by changes in the project plan or will be mitigated with adherence to permit requirements. Minor construction impacts will be localized to the construction zones and will be temporary.

The attached Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) is EGLE's preliminary decision on its review of the proposed project. A map depicting the location of the proposed project is attached. For additional information, you may request a copy of the Environmental Assessment, the detailed summary document upon which the FNSI is based.

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this preliminary decision should be submitted to me at EGLE, Finance Division, Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing Section, Constitution Hall, P.O. Box 30457, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7957. We will not take any action on this project plan for 30 calendar days from the date of this notice in order to receive and consider any comments.

In the absence of substantive comments during this period, our preliminary decision will become final. The applicant will then be eligible to receive loan assistance to construct the proposed project.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Page 2

November 18, 2022

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sara Brown, Project Manager, at 517-231-8916, by email at BrownS93@michigan.gov, or you may contact me. Your interest in this process and the environment is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Eric Pocan

Eric Pocan, Unit Supervisor
Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing Section
Finance Division
517-284-5433

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
Clean Water State Revolving Fund
Finding of No Significant Impact
Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority
Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
Dewitt Township, Clinton County
November 2022

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Applicant:	Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority
Address:	3671 West Herbison Road DeWitt, Michigan 48820
Authorized Representatives:	Brad Gurski, Director of Operations
Project Number:	5818-01
Project Location:	WWTP property
Construction Period:	Spring 2023 – Fall 2026
Estimated Loan Total:	\$15,043,500

DESCRIPTION

The Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCCMUA) is applying for a low interest Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan to finance various improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to increase treatment efficiency and capacity (See Figure 1).

The SCCMUA oversees the sanitary treatment system for the city of DeWitt, DeWitt Township, Bath Township, and Watertown Township. Approximately 38,000 customers rely on the wastewater system, which is projected to increase to 49,200 customers by 2042. The current plant capacity rating has an average daily flow of 5 million gallons per day (MGD), with a peak hourly flow of 10 MGD. SCCMUA has received approval for the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to re-rate the facility to a design average flow of 6 MGD and a peak hourly flow of 12 MGD as long as treatment processes were upgraded. As a result, there are multiple areas of the plant that are outdated, undersized, or in need of repair for the revised treatment plant parameters.

The principal factor for this project is to replace outdated/undersized equipment that is either at risk of failure or inadequate to handle current treatment parameters. The main influent lift station (LS) is the Sandhill LS which includes three raw sewage pumps that are approaching the end of their useful life and are in need of replacement. The headworks building includes screening equipment that is outdated and hydraulically inadequate, and an aerated grit chamber that is in need of repairs. The headworks process cannot handle flows above 6 MGD, which results in the screen influent channel being overtopped, and raw sewage spills over the walkway into the grit chamber. The tertiary sand filters cannot handle flows above 6 MGD, which results in a partial bypass of the system altogether. These filters need to be replaced in order to handle the peak hourly flows that the plant experiences. In addition to these process upgrades, the plant's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and electrical systems are experiencing failures due to corrosion and age, and various upgrades are planned for these as well. This includes new air exchanging equipment in various buildings, a new emergency backup generator for the whole plant, and new motor controls for

process equipment. The chlorine disinfection system is outdated, and the use of chlorine presents a risk to the environment as well as the operators handling the chemicals. This will be replaced with an ultraviolet disinfection system.

COSTS

The estimated total cost of the project is \$16,715,000. SCCMUA has qualified for an American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant up to \$1,671,500, and the remaining \$15,043,500 would be financed by a 30-year CWSRF loan at 2.125 percent interest. It is expected that user costs for the average residential customer will increase by approximately \$4.44 per user per month to service the anticipated CWSRF loan debt for this project.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

The project will have no significant adverse direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts upon any socioeconomic, cultural, or environmental factors. Much of the construction activity will take place on the WWTP property where utilities and infrastructure already exist. There is no anticipated service interruption to WWTP customers.

Limited tree removal is expected as part of this project, and no impacts to surface waters are anticipated. There are no anticipated impacts to wetlands or waterways. The contractor will acquire all permits as deemed necessary by the EGLE and other federal and state agencies as needed.

The anticipated project impacts of dust, noise, traffic, and soil erosion will be properly mitigated by sound construction practices and adherence to permit requirements. No site-specific concerns are expected that will require special mitigation measures.

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EGLE prepared a separate document, an Environmental Assessment, which contains additional information about the WWTP improvement project financed by the CWSRF and its impacts to support this Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI). This detailed document is available upon request by contacting the Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing Section at 517-231-8916.

Questions regarding the FNSI should be directed to:

Mrs. Sara Brown, Project Manager
Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing Section
Finance Division
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
P.O. Box 30457
Lansing, Michigan 48909-4957
Telephone: 517-231-8916
E-Mail: BrownsS93@michigan.gov

Figure 1

**Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority WWTP
CWSRF Project Number 5818-01**

