



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

**Watershed Protection Branch
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1152, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-463-1511**

**Mr. Kenneth Howard, City Manager
City of Hinesville
115 East Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Hinesville, Georgia 31313**

MAR 23 2020

**RE: GEFA Loan No. CW-2019-022
Hinesville WPCP Improvements and Expansion
Notice of No Significant Impact
Fort Stewart WPCP and JV Road WRF
NPDES Permit Nos. GA0047180 and GA0050301
EPD #2018-067
Liberty County, Savannah River Basin**

Dear Mr. Howard:

Attached is a copy of a *Notice of No Significant Impact (Nonsi)* prepared for the above-referenced project. The public comment period for this Nonsi is 30 days. Please ensure that the Nonsi is posted at a conspicuous location at the City for public review for 30 days from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 404-463-1834 or josh.hayes@dnr.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Hayes".

**Josh Hayes
Municipal Permitting Unit
Wastewater Regulatory Program**

Attachment: Notice of No Significant Impact

**cc: Paul Simonton, P.E., P.C. Simonton & Associates, Inc. (psimonton@pcsimonton.com)
Ashton Austin, P.C. Simonton & Associates, Inc. (aaustin@pcsimonton.com)
Sarah Oken, GEFA (soken@gefa.ga.gov)**



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

**EPD Director's Office
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1456, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-4713**

**NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS**

The City of Hinesville has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The project consists of improvements at the Fort Stewart Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and JV Road Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) to improve redundancy, relocating the discharge at the JV Road WRF and the expanding the JV Road WRF to 4.0 MGD. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Clean Water Act, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name: City of Hinesville
Hinesville WPCP Improvements and Expansion

Project Location: City of Hinesville, Liberty County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$16,200,000

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount: \$2,400,000 ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ The current loan amount consists of funding for the modifications at the JV Road WRF only. Future loans will fund the other phases of the project.

Project Description

The City of Hinesville proposes to construct approximately 5,200 linear feet of 16-inch force main along with a cascade aerator and dechlorination system to relocate the discharge for the JV Road WRF from Peacock Creek to Taylors Creek.

The project will also retrofit an existing aerobic digester to create a new sequencing batch reactor, construct a new aerobic digester, and install a new belt press at the JV Road WRF. Modifications at the Fort Stewart WPCP include retrofitting the existing secondary clarifiers to create three new sequencing batch reactors and an equalization basin.

The final phase of the project will be an expansion of the JV Road WRF from 2.0 MGD to 4.0 MGD. The expansion of the JV Road WRF will include the construction of a new headworks, four sequencing batch reactors, an equalization basin, tertiary filtration, UV disinfection, and an aerobic digester. The project will accommodate flow/population projections for the area, as well as adding redundancy to the treatment at both facilities.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Hinesville. The project will provide reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future population. Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction. No anticipated adverse secondary impacts are associated with the project. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is as follows: Project activity is not anticipated to result in adverse environmental impacts beyond those that can be easily mitigated with minimal extra expense or delay in project implementation. The project will take place primarily on City property (or right-of-way) and previously disturbed land.

The current rates for wastewater are not anticipated to increase for the current customer base. Repayment of the loan will be addressed by increasing impact fees to new customers by approximately 8% in the first six months.

A public information meeting was held on June 27, 2019 at the Hinesville City Hall to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meeting.

An Environmental Review Record concerning the proposed project has been made by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division that documents the environmental review of the project and provides more detail explaining why an environmental impact statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Division's address listed below. A copy of the SRF planning document is available for public review upon request at Hinesville City Hall during business hours and at the Division between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

No further environmental review of this project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of loan funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments within 30 days of the issuance date of this notice via email to josh.hayes@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Josh Hayes
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Suite 1152 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

After evaluating the comments received, a final decision regarding the loan will be made. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.

Loan Recipient: City of Hinesville
115 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Hinesville, Georgia 31313

Issue Date: MAR 23 2020



Richard E. Dunn
Director
Environmental Protection Division

Ft. Stewart Wastewater Treatment Plant & NPRL Extension to Taylors Creek

Ft. Stewart WWTP: 31°52'54.60" N, 81°38'30.63" W
NPRL: 31°53'13.52" N, 81°37'49.57" W



Non-Potable Reuse Line to Taylors Creek

Ft. Stewart Wastewater Treatment Plant

Google Earth



Hinesville Water Reclamation Facility

31°50'54.24" N, 81°38'17.17" W

Hinesville Water Reclamation Facility



Google Earth

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4000 ft.

