



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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

September 21, 2021

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission
1310 West Ridge Road
Gainesville, Georgia 30501

RE: GEFA Loan No. CW-2021-036
Categorical Exclusion (CE)
City of Hartwell
Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements
Hartwell Water Pollution Control Plant
LAS Permit No. GAJ020114
Hart County

To whom it may concern:

Attached is a copy of a *Categorical Exclusion* (CE) prepared for the above-referenced project. The public comment period for this CE is 30 days from the date of this letter. If we have not received written comments from your organization at this time, we will assume that you have no comments.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (470) 938-3351 or via email at Kelli-Ann.Sottile@dnr.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

Kelli-Ann Sottile
Municipal Permitting Unit
Wastewater Regulatory Program



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

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements

City of Hartwell (Hart County)

GEFA Loan No. CW-2021-036

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned.

The proposed project consists of installation of a new influent channel, bar screen(s), and grit removal system; installation of a new 5-MG flow equalization basin to address peak flows; replacement of the aging aerators with a new aeration system; upgrades to the existing clarifier; addition of a new clarifier for system redundancy; replacement of the RAS/WAS pump station to serve the new clarifier; installation of aeration/mixing equipment in the reject pond to address excess odors and algae growth, as well as addition of a liner in the basin; replacement of the aging sludge belt press with a new rotary press, which will include demolition of the existing dewatering building; and, miscellaneous electrical improvements.

The proposed project will address aging/failing equipment at the wastewater facility, provide additional redundancy and reliability to unit processes, and address significant wet-weather peak flows. There will be no increase in capacity to the facility as a result of this project. All construction will be located on City owned-property.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: minor rehabilitation of existing facilities and construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent to existing facilities that do not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing facility. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

This determination becomes effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated. The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at Hartwell City Hall in Hart County, Georgia.

Categorical Exclusion
GEFA Loan No. CW-2021-036
City of Hartwell
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All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit comments within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice via email to kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

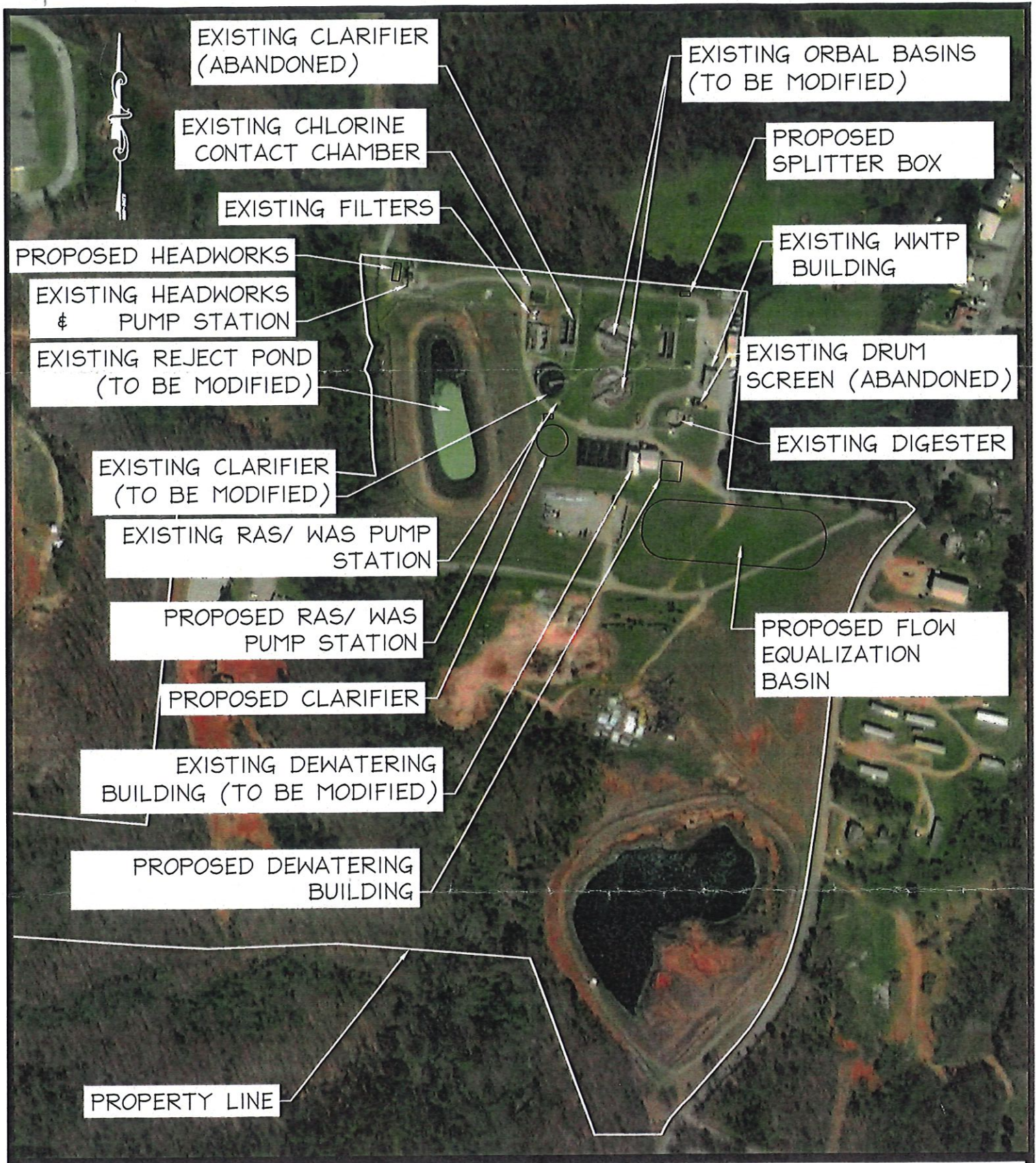
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Kelli-Ann Sottile
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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

Publish Date: September 21, 2021



Richard E. Dunn, Director
Environmental Protection Division



Carter & Sloop

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

MACON ◆ ATHENS ◆ CANTON ◆ MOULTRIE

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FIGURE 4.3
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

300 0 300 600



GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET: 1" = 300'