



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION
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1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510
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Mr. John Hall, Town Manager
Authorized Representative
Town of Saint Johnsbury
Pomerleau Building
51 Depot Square, Floor 3
St Johnsbury, Vermont 05819

April 26, 2013

**Re: Categorical Exclusion
CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street**

RF1 -168 (Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan)

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the proposed construction of the CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street in the Town of St Johnsbury may be excluded from the detailed environmental review procedures that are required for projects that have a significant environmental impact. The Department's environmental review procedures require **30-day public comment period** following the issuance of this Notice. If no public input is received during that period that demonstrates that this Determination is in error, then the Categorical Exclusion exempting the project from detailed review will become effective.

Copies of documents supporting a Categorical Exclusion are enclosed. Please keep copies of the **enclosed documents**, along with pertinent reports by your consulting engineer, **available for public inspection** during a public comment period of 30 days. A full listing of the documents that must be available for public inspection is attached. Please call (490-6226) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lynnette Whitney, P.E.
Pollution Control Design Chief

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

Documents Enclosed for Public Comment Period (30 Days)

1. Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion (Signed by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division).
2. Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion (Approved by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division).
3. Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program.

Additional Documents Needed for Public Comment Period (30 Days)

4. Facilities Plan titled "*Preliminary Engineering Report CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street, St. Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated April 1, 2013 with revisions dated April 24, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.
5. Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report --Combined Sewer Overflow Elimination, St Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated February 21, 2013, revised April 19, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.

Mailing List (email)

Chad Whitehead, P.E., Dufresne Group

Tom Benoit, Environmental Analyst, Stormwater Program, VT-DEC, Watershed Management Division

Shannon Morrison, District Wetlands Ecologist, Wetlands Program, VT-DEC, Watershed Management Division

Everett Marshall, Information Manager, Nongame and Natural Heritage Program, VT Dept of Fish & Wildlife

Chuck Schwer, Chief, Site Management Section, VT-DEC, Waste Management Division

Scott Dillon, Archeologist, Division for Historic Preservation, VT Dept Housing and Community Affairs

Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, VT-DEC, Facilities Engineering Division



NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont

CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street

In accordance with Section VII of the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program, the Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, has requested that its proposed CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street be evaluated for eligibility for a Categorical Exclusion from the detailed environmental review that is described in the Procedures and required for projects with significant environmental impact.

The proposed project continues St. Johnsbury's infrastructure improvements to reduce and eliminate combined sewer overflow locations and frequency, and includes the reconstruction and separation of sewer and storm utilities in US Routes 2 and 5 Alt (Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street) and associated water distribution network improvements, in preparation for a VTrans paving project of the same area in 2014.

Our consideration of the Town's request for Categorical Exclusion included a detailed review of the following documents:

- Facilities Plan titled "*Preliminary Engineering Report CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street, St. Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated April 1, 2013 with revisions dated April 24, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.
- Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report --Combined Sewer Overflow Elimination, St Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated February 21, 2013, revised April 19, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.

Upon completion of its independent evaluation, the Department has determined that the project meets the criteria for receiving a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the project includes functional replacement and minor upgrading of existing sewage collection lines not resulting in a new discharge to surface or groundwater, and therefore does not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing wastewater treatment facility.

Further information on the project and this Determination is available for inspection at the following locations:

- Town of St. Johnsbury, Pomerleau Building, 51 Depot Square, Floor 3, St Johnsbury, Vermont 05819
- Dufresne Group, 459 Portland Street, St Johnsbury, VT 05819
- Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Facilities Engineering Division, National Life Building, MAIN 1, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3510, Telephone: (802) 490-6226 or (802) 490-6227 (cell phones)

No significant administrative action will be taken on this project for thirty (30) days from issuance of this Notice of Determination, to allow for public response.


Eric Blatt, P.E., Director
Facilities Engineering Division

April 26, 2013



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Agency of Natural Resources

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1 National Life Drive
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E-Mail Address: Lynnette.Whitney@state.vt.us
Telephone: (802) 490-6226

TO: Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division 
FROM: Lynnette Whitney, P.E., Pollution Control Design Chief
DATE: April 26, 2013
SUBJECT: Town of St. Johnsbury
CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street

Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Town of St. Johnsbury
CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street

Address: John Hall, Town Manager
Authorized Representative
Town of St. Johnsbury
Pomerleau Building
51 Depot Square, Floor 3
St Johnsbury, VT 05819

Project Location: US Routes 2 and 5 Alt (Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street), all in the
Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program Project #: RF1 -168

B. Summary of Environmental Review

In accordance with Section VII of the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program, the Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, has requested that its proposed CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street be evaluated for eligibility for a Categorical Exclusion from the detailed environmental review which is described in the Procedures and required for projects with significant environmental impact.

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

The applicant's request, and the following pertinent documents, have been reviewed, and our findings are summarized below:

Facilities Plan titled "*Preliminary Engineering Report CSO Elimination Project for Eastern Avenue, Western Avenue, and Main Street, St. Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated April 1, 2013 with revisions dated April 24, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.

Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report --Combined Sewer Overflow Elimination, St Johnsbury, Vermont*" and dated February 21, 2013, revised April 19, 2013, by Dufresne Group of St Johnsbury, Vermont.

1. Project Description

The Town of St. Johnsbury is located in Caledonia County, Vermont.

The proposed project continues St. Johnsbury's infrastructure improvements to reduce and eliminate combined sewer overflow locations and frequency, and includes the reconstruction and separation of sewer and storm utilities in US Routes 2 and 5 Alt (Eastern Avenue from Pearl Street to Main Street; Western Avenue from Main Street to Mount Vernon Street intersection; and Main Street from Fairbanks Drive to Hastings Hill, including all sides of the Arnold Park area and portions of Mt. Pleasant Street/Main Street transition area) and associated water distribution network improvements, in preparation for a VTrans paving project of the same area in 2014.

The total project cost is estimated at over \$8 million dollars.

2. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

We have determined that the project meets the criteria for receiving a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the project includes functional replacement and minor upgrading of existing sewage collection lines, and does not result in a new discharge to surface or groundwater. The project does not involve (create) serious local or environmental issues, or meet any of the criteria that would result in denial of an Exclusion.