



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION
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Todd Provencher
Authorized Representative
City of Montpelier
City Hall
39 Main Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

February 16, 2017

**Re: Northfield Street Utilities Improvements Project
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-192
Vermont/USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number WPL-264
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact**

Dear Mr. Provencher:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue an amended Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed Northfield Street Utilities Improvements Project. The project has positive environmental impacts by reduction of wastewater backups and failures by correction of inverse slopes and sags in the wastewater collection system; the reduction of groundwater infiltration into the wastewater collection system by the replacement of failed pipes, stormwater management through improved grading, and improved drinking water service pressure, reliability, and longevity through the increased pipe diameters and pipe materials resistant to corrosion. The project has been designed to accommodate numerous on-going master plan implementation efforts and to maximize the potential for co-funding. This project involves: excavation near a mapped hazardous waste site which may require that water main piping be made of materials resistant to both acidic soils and petroleum contamination which can be mitigated with proper material selection; work near wet areas that have not yet been determined to be or not be wetlands which can be mitigated through the wetlands permit process; full depth road reconstruction and widening which may or may not require and can be mitigated by a stormwater permit; strict erosion control measures to prevent erosion from the project site which will require a stormwater construction permit; potential impacts to an endangered species in the Winooks River downstream and near the stormwater outfalls for the project site which may or may not be affected and may or may not require a permit; reduced wastewater pipe sizes and increased slopes

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that both increase hydraulic capacity and is mitigated by use of the minimum wastewater pipe size which limits future connections; increased water main pipe sizes and hydraulic capacity to alleviate maximum day demand and peak demand pressure losses and provide fully for ISO fire flows required in the neighborhood, which indirectly result in the potential for future connections. Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Department's environmental review procedures require a **30 day public comment period** following the issuance of a Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact. If no public comments received during that period demonstrate that this Notice of Intent is in error, then the Finding of No Significant Impact will become effective.

Copies of documents supporting a Finding of No Significant Impact are enclosed. Please keep copies of the **enclosed documents**, along with any pertinent reports by your consulting engineers, **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, **(802) 490-6226**, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Lynnette Whitney Claudon, P.E.
Chief Pollution Control Design
Engineer
Facilities Engineering Division

Enclosures

Documents Posted for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

1. **Notice of Intent** to Issue a **Finding of No Significant Impact** (Signed by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division, enclosed.)
2. **Evaluation** of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact (Approved by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division, enclosed.)
3. **State Environmental Review Procedures** for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program, <http://dec.vermont.gov/facilities-engineering/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>

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Additional Documents Needed for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

4. **Environmental Information Document** titled “*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*”, and dated August 12, 2016, by Dufresne Group of Vermont. (See Appendix H of PER, below.)
5. **Preliminary Engineering Report** entitled “*Northfield Street Utility Replacement*”, and dated October 28, 2016 by Dufresne Group of Vermont.

<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=161387&DVID=0>

COPY LIST

Jessica Bulova and Nick Gianetti, Wastewater Program, VT-DEC, Watershed Management Division

Carl Fuller PE, Regional Engineer, VT-DEC, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

Cindy Parks PE and Tim Raymond, Drinking Water Program, VT-DEC, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

Kevin Burke, Environmental Analyst, Stormwater Section, VT-DEC, Watershed Management Division

Shannon Morrison, Wetlands Ecologist, Wetlands Section, VT-DEC, Water Quality Division

Richard Spiese, Environmental Analyst, Waste Management Division

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

Mike Ferguson, Biologist, VT Dept of Fish & Wildlife

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



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

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**Department of Environmental Conservation
Facilities Engineering Division
1 National Life Drive, Main 1
Montpelier, VT 05620**

(802) 490-6226

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

**City of Montpelier, Vermont
Northfield Street Utilities Improvements**

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF1-192**

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed Northfield Street Utilities Improvements project. This project involves reconstruction of existing wastewater collection system, temporary and permanent new water mains and services, full depth street reconstruction and widening, as well as some stormwater components.

Under the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program, the project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) from detailed environmental review. The project involves increased hydraulic capacity above the threshold for CATEX.

Also, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), under the Department's environmental review procedures. The project will not increase the current permitted flow capacity of the treatment plant, and the project will not include sewer extensions.

**Town of Brattleboro, Vermont
Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Pump Station Upgrades
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
November 6, 2013**

Further information on the project and this Notice of Intent is available for inspection at the following locations:

Kurt Motyka, P.E., City Engineer
City of Montpelier
39 Main Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Telephone: **(802) 223-9508**

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Facilities Engineering Division
1 National Life Drive, Main 1
Montpelier, VT 05620

Telephone: **(802) 490-6226**

Brian Baker
Dufresne Group
297 South Main Street
Barre Vermont 05641

Telephone: **(802) 479-3698**

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



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

2/16/2017

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Eric Blatt, P.E., Director, Facilities Engineering Division *E. Blatt*

FROM: Lynnette Whitney Claudon, P.E., Chief Pollution Control Design Engineer, Facilities Engineering Division *LWC EJM*

SUBJECT: **City of Montpelier**
Northfield Street Utilities Improvements Project
Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact

DATE: February 16, 2017

A. Project Identification

Project Name: City of Montpelier
Northfield Street Utilities Reconstruction Project

Address: Todd Provencher, Authorized Representative
City of Montpelier
39 Main Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Project Location: Montpelier, Vermont
Northfield Street (VT Route 12) from the intersection of Memorial Drive (US Route 2) to and including the intersection of Freedom Drive.

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF1-192**
Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number: **WPL-264**

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Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Northfield Street Utilities Improvements
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-192
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B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Facilities Engineering Division, has reviewed this proposed project in accordance with the Department's State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program.

The Department has reviewed the following planning documents:

- **Environmental Information Document titled “Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document”, and dated August 12, 2016, by Dufresne Group of Vermont.**
- **Preliminary Engineering Report entitled “Northfield Street Utility Replacement”, and dated October 28, 2016 by Dufresne Group of Vermont.**

A public hearing will be held on February 22, 2017 as part of the regular Montpelier City Council Meeting as part of this FNSI process.

A **Finding of No Significant Impact** (FNSI) is the appropriate environmental review response for this project if the issues presented can be resolved with mitigation or permits. This project is **not** eligible for **Categorical Exclusion** from detailed environmental review due hydraulic capacity increase above the threshold, and potential impacts to wetlands, water quality, and endangered species. Also, the project's direct and indirect environmental effects do **not** necessitate issuance of an **Environmental Impact Statement** (EIS), consistent with the criteria as described in section XI of the Department's environmental review procedures.

1. Project Description

The City of Montpelier is located in Washington County, Vermont in the Winooski River watershed. The proposed project consists of:

- a. This project involves reconstruction of existing wastewater collection system, temporary and permanent new water mains and services, full depth street reconstruction and widening, as well as some stormwater components. This contract is expected to be constructed with **Clean Water State Revolving loan Funding (CWSRF), the Drinking Water State Revolving loan Funding (DWSRF), with paving immediately following by VTrans.**

2. Justification for Finding of No Significant Impact

We have determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Mr. Todd Provencher, Authorized Representative, City of Montpelier
Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Northfield Street Utilities Improvements
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-192
February 16, 2017

The project has positive environmental impacts by reduction of wastewater backups and failures by correction of inverse slopes and sags in the wastewater collection system; the reduction of groundwater infiltration into the wastewater collection system by the replacement of failed pipes, stormwater management through improved grading, and improved drinking water service pressure, reliability, and longevity through the increased pipe diameters and pipe materials resistant to corrosion. The project has been designed to accommodate numerous on-going master plan implementation efforts and to maximize the potential for co-funding.

This project involves: excavation near a mapped hazardous waste site which may require that water main piping be made of materials resistant to both acidic soils and petroleum contamination which can be mitigated with proper material selection; work near wet areas that have not yet been determined to be or not be wetlands which can be mitigated through the wetlands permit process; full depth road reconstruction and widening which may or may not require and can be mitigated by a stormwater permit; strict erosion control measures to prevent erosion from the project site which will require a stormwater construction permit; potential impacts to an endangered species in the Winooksi River downstream and near the stormwater outfalls for the project site which may or may not be affected and may or may not require a permit; reduced wastewater pipe sizes and increased slopes that both increase hydraulic capacity and is mitigated by use of the minimum wastewater pipe size which limits future connections; increased water main pipe sizes and hydraulic capacity to alleviate maximum day demand and peak demand pressure losses and provide fully for ISO fire flows required in the neighborhood, which indirectly result in the potential for future connections. Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

In addition, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project will not necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The project will not increase the current permitted flow capacity of the treatment plant. The project does not include sewer extensions.

A public hearing will be held on February 22, 2017 as part of the regular Montpelier City Council Meeting as part of this FNSI process and a public responsiveness summary will be documented.