



FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION
National Life Building, MAIN 1
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510
FAX: (802)828-1552

E-mail Address: eric.blatt@vermont.gov
Telephone: (802) 585-4901

E-Mail Address: robert.pelosi@vermont.gov
Telephone: (802) 522-2192

November 14, 2018

Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works
Town of Hartford
173 Airport Road
White River Junction, VT 05001

**RE: North Main Street Stormwater Project
Town of Hartford, VT
Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan: RF1-204
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact**

Dear Ms. Tyler:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Town of Hartford, North Main Street Stormwater Project. The improvements are expected to minimize street flooding along Currier Street, convey the surface runoff for the 25-year storm event, and accommodate future downspout disconnection from select buildings in the project area. As part of this project, the Town proposes to (1) install approximately 430 feet of new stormwater pipe, with associated catch basins and stormdrain manholes, along Church Street (starting at Gates Street) and connect the segment to an existing 42" diameter stormdrain, (2) install approximately 600 feet of new stormwater pipe, with associated catch basins and stormdrain manholes, along Currier Street (approximately halfway between North Main Street and Gates Street) that extends west to the new Church Street stormwater pipe, and (3) improve the existing Bridge Street Outfall by constructing a new stormdrain manhole, installing approximately 60 linear feet of 42" corrugated metal pipe, and using approximately 460 cubic yards of fill and rip rap to stabilize the structure and prevent sediment deposition.

Since the improvements to the Bridge Street Outfall are to be constructed in a floodplain, the project does not qualify for a Categorical Exclusion from Environmental Review. The Department, however, has determined that the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant enough to require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), under the Department's environmental review procedures.

The Department's environmental review procedures require a 30-day public comment period following the issuance of a Notice of Intent to Issue a FONSI. If no public comments are received during this period, the Finding of No Significant Impact becomes effective immediately. If comments are received, the Department must evaluate and address any comments before affirming the decision.

Copies of documents supporting a FONSI are enclosed. Please keep copies of the enclosed documents, along with any pertinent reports by your consulting engineer, available for public inspection during the 30-day public comment period. The documents which must be available for public inspection are listed below.

Please contact Robert Pelosi at (802) 522-2192 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Eric Blatt, P.E.
Director
Facilities Engineering Division

Sincerely,



Robert Pelosi, E.I.
Pollution Control Design Engineer
Facilities Engineering Division

Enclosures

Documents Enclosed 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)
2. **Evaluation** of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
(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 Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 Days)

4. **Preliminary Engineering Report**, titled *Town of Hartford, Vermont, White River Junction Stormdrain Improvements*, dated January 2017, and prepared by Aldrich + Elliott Water Resource Engineers of Essex Junction, Vermont.
5. **Environmental Information Document**, titled *Environmental Report*, dated August 2, 2016 (executed October 31, 2016), and prepared by Aldrich + Elliott Water Resource Engineers of Essex Junction, Vermont.
6. **Archeological Resource Assessment** titled, *White River Junction Storm Drain Improvements*, dated February 2017, and prepared by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. of Putney, Vermont.
7. **Phase IB Archeological End of Fieldwork Letter** titled, *White River Junction Storm Water Project*, dated August 7, 2018, and prepared by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. of Putney, Vermont.

COPY LIST

Linda Matteson, District 3 Coordinator, Act 250 Program, VT Natural Resources Board

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

Chris Tomberg, Permit Reviewer, Stormwater Program, Watershed Management Division, VT-DEC

John Broker-Campbell, Floodplain Manager Rivers Program, Watershed Management Division, VT-DEC

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

Stephanie Smith, Chief Policy Enforcement Officer, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets

Thomas Villars, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



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

FROM: Robert Pelosi, E.I., Design Engineer, Facilities Engineering Division

SUBJECT: Town of Hartford
North Main Street Stormwater Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for a **Finding of No Significant Impact**

DATE: November 14, 2018

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Town of Hartford, Vermont
North Main Street Stormwater Project

Address: Hannah Tyler, Director of Public Works
Town of Hartford
173 Airport Road
White River Junction, Vermont 05001

Project Location: Area bound by Currier, Church, and North Main Streets and a stormwater outfall
between Bridge Street and Hartford Avenue
Town of Hartford, Village of White River Junction, Vermont

Funding: Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-204

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Facilities Engineering Division, has reviewed this proposed project in accordance with Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program. Consistent with those procedures, the Department intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed North Main Street Stormwater Project.

The Department has reviewed the following planning documents:

- **Preliminary Engineering Report**, titled *Town of Hartford, Vermont, White River Junction Stormdrain Improvements*, dated January 2017, and prepared by Aldrich + Elliott Water Resource Engineers of Essex Junction, Vermont.
- **Environmental Information Document**, titled *Environmental Report*, dated August 2, 2016 (executed October 31, 2016), and prepared by Aldrich + Elliott Water Resource Engineers of Essex Junction, Vermont.
- **Archeological Resource Assessment** titled, *White River Junction Storm Drain Improvements*, dated February 2017, and prepared by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. of Putney, Vermont.
- **Phase IB Archeological End of Fieldwork Letter** titled, *White River Junction Storm Water Project*, dated August 7, 2018, and prepared by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. of Putney, Vermont.

A **Finding of No Significant Impact** (FONSI) is the appropriate environmental review response for this project. The project is primarily ineligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed Environmental Review as it involves construction in a floodplain. However, with regulatory review by the municipality and VT DEC's regional Floodplains Manager, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant enough to require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), as described in Section XI of the Department's environmental review procedures.

1. Project Description

The Town of Hartford is in Windsor County, Vermont. The project is necessary to alleviate flooding that currently occurs along Carrier Street during intense precipitation events and improve stormwater infrastructure within the project area so that it can convey surface runoff from a 25-year storm. Further, the Town proposes to improve the existing Bridge Street Outfall by extending the pipe, adjusting slope to reduce sediment deposition, and stabilizing the structure with rip rap to prevent erosion.

As mentioned previously, the project is not eligible for Categorical Exclusion.

2. Justification for Finding of No Significant Impact

The Design Section has determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

As discussed in a prior section, the Design Section recognizes that the project involves construction in a floodplain. However, with regulatory review by the municipality and VT DEC's regional Floodplains Manager, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant.

Per procedure, the Design Section has also determined that no other direct or indirect environmental effects warrant an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As evidenced by the Environmental Information Document and the VT ANR Resource Atlas, all construction is proposed outside of delineated wetland buffers and there are no proximate rare, threatened, or endangered species present. Finally, an Archeological Resource Assessment and a Phase IB Archeological Investigation indicate that there are no effects on historic or prehistoric sites.

The Town held an Environmental Impact Hearing on October 23, 2018 to discuss project details with the public. Attendees did not raise objections or voice concerns about the project.