



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

*Agency of Natural Resources*

FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION  
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Jeffery Wennberg, Commissioner of Public Works  
City of Rutland  
P.O. Box 969  
Rutland, VT 05702

March 28, 2019

**Re: Categorical Exclusion  
City of Rutland, Solids Management Facilities Improvements  
RF1 -235 (Vermont/EPA CWSRF Loan)**

Dear Mr. Wennberg:

The Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the proposed Solids Management Facilities Improvements may be exempted from detailed environmental review as the project presents no significant environmental impact. The Department's environmental review procedures require a **30-day public comment period** following the issuance of this Notice. During this period, the public may submit substantive comments demonstrating that the Determination is in error. If no comments are received, the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion and is exempt from detailed environmental review.

Note that the comment period begins on March 29, 2019 and ends on April 28, 2019.

During the public comment period, documents pertinent to the project must be publicly available. These include the **enclosed** supporting documentation for the Categorical Exclusion, the Facility Plan, and Environmental Information Document prepared by your engineering consultant, and a summary of environmental review procedures. A full listing of the required documents is attached for your convenience.

Please call (802) 522-2192 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Robert Pelosi, E.I.  
Pollution Control Design Engineer

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. Link to: [Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program.](#)

Additional Documents Needed for Public Comment Period (30 Days)

4. Preliminary Engineering Report titled, "*City of Rutland, Vermont, Sewage Force Main and Solids Management Facilities, Preliminary Engineering Report,*" dated December 31, 2018, and prepared by Michael Alan Smith, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.
5. Environmental Report titled, "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document, Rutland WWTF Digester Complex Rehabilitation, State Assigned Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Number RF1-235,*" signed on March 26, 2019, and prepared by Shane Mullen, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.

Mailing List (e-mail)

**Michael Alan Smith, P.E. and Shane Mullen, P.E.,** Weston & Sampson  
**Shea Miller,** Environmental Analyst, Wastewater Program, VT-DEC, Watershed 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

### City of Rutland, Vermont

#### Solids Management Facilities Improvements

In accordance with Section VII of the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program, the City of Rutland, Vermont has requested that the proposed Solids Management Facilities Improvements be exempt from detailed environmental review through Categorical Exclusion.

The proposed project consists of replacing various components associated with solids management at the wastewater treatment facility. The project elements include:

- Replacing the existing septage pump, adding a redundant pump, installing tank level controls, and replacing ancillary equipment that supports septage receiving area;
- Replacing the primary sludge wasting valves and repairing the pump house and sludge pit buildings;
- Replacing the waste activated sludge pumps, installing new controls, and replacing the isolation valves;
- Updating the mixing equipment and ancillary components at the biosolids receiving area; and
- Rehabilitating or replacing process equipment and piping within the anaerobic digestion complex, replacing gas safety equipment, making code-related improvements (NFPA 820), and repairing building deficiencies.

The project area is generally described as the existing wastewater treatment facility located at 10 Greens Hill Lane. All proposed work is to occur within the existing buildings at the facility. A map of the project area is included in the supporting documentation.

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

- Preliminary Engineering Report titled, "*City of Rutland, Vermont, Sewage Force Main and Solids Management Facilities, Preliminary Engineering Report*," dated December 31, 2018, and prepared by Michael Alan Smith, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.
- Environmental Report titled, "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document, Rutland WWTF Digester Complex Rehabilitation, State Assigned Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Number RF1-235*," signed on March 26, 2019, and prepared by Shane Mullen, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, 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 is solely directed toward the minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, the functional replacement of equipment, and does not involve construction of new ancillary facilities. Further, the project does not involve any aspects which would make it ineligible for a Categorical Exclusion.

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

**City of Rutland, City Hall, 1 Strongs Avenue, P.O. Box 969, Rutland, Vermont 05702**

**Weston & Sampson, 98 South Main Street, Suite 2, Waterbury, Vermont 05676**

**Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Facilities Engineering Division,  
National Life Building, MAIN 1, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3510  
Telephone: (802) 828-1550 (land line)**

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.



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


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March 29, 2019

Date

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

E-Mail Address: robert.pelosi@state.vt.us  
Telephone: (802) 522-2192

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

FROM: Robert Pelosi, E.I., Pollution Control Design Engineer 

DATE: March 28, 2019

SUBJECT: City of Rutland  
Solids Management Facilities Improvements  
Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

A. Project Identification

Project Name: City of Rutland  
Solids Management Facilities Improvements

Address: Jeffery Wennberg, Commissioner of Public Works  
City of Rutland  
P.O. Box 969  
Rutland, VT 05702

Project Location: The project area is generally described as the existing wastewater treatment facility located at 10 Greens Hill Lane. All proposed work is to occur within the existing buildings at the facility. A map of the project area is included in the supporting documentation.

Vermont/EPA CWSRF Loan Program Project No.: RF1-235

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 City of Rutland, Vermont, has requested that the proposed Solids Management Facilities Improvements be exempted from detailed environmental review through Categorical Exclusion, as detailed in the Procedures.

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

- Preliminary Engineering Report titled, "*City of Rutland, Vermont, Sewage Force Main and Solids Management Facilities, Preliminary Engineering Report*," dated December 31, 2018, and prepared by Michael Alan Smith, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.
- Environmental Report titled, "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document, Rutland WWTF Digester Complex Rehabilitation, State Assigned Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Number RF1-235*," signed on March 26, 2019, and prepared by Shane Mullen, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.

### Project Description

The City of Rutland is in Rutland County, Vermont.

The proposed project consists of replacing various components associated with solids management at the wastewater treatment facility. The project elements include:

- Replacing the existing septage pump, adding a redundant pump, installing tank level controls, and replacing ancillary equipment that supports septage receiving area;
- Replacing the primary sludge wasting valves and repairing the pump house and sludge pit buildings;
- Replacing the waste activated sludge pumps, installing new controls, and replacing the isolation valves;
- Updating the mixing equipment and ancillary components at the biosolids receiving area; and
- Rehabilitating or replacing process equipment and piping within the anaerobic digestion complex, replacing gas safety equipment, making code-related improvements (NFPA 820), and repairing building deficiencies.

### C. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

Upon completion of its independent evaluation, the Department has determined that the project meets the criteria for receiving a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the project is solely directed toward the minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, the functional replacement of equipment, and does not involve construction of new ancillary facilities. Further, the project does not meet any of the criteria that would result in denial of an Exclusion.