



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

*Agency of Natural Resources*

FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION  
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March 28, 2019

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

**RE: Sewage Force Main (River Street Pump Station) Replacement  
City of Rutland, VT  
Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan: RF1-236  
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact**

Dear Mr. Wennberg:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Force Main Replacement project at the River Street Pump Station in Rutland, Vermont. For this project, the City proposes to replace the 20" ductile iron (DI) sewage force main, originally commissioned in 1962, that conveys wastewater from the River Street Pump Station to the diversion valve vault outside treatment facility. The project does not affect the supplemental 20" DI force main that was installed in 1992; accordingly, the second force main is to remain in service.

The Department anticipates two potential impacts to natural resources. First, the open-trench replacement of the force main requires construction in a floodplain. Second, the associated river crossing requires the temporary installation of a coffer dam which will divert the flow of East Creek. For these reasons, the project does not qualify for a Categorical Exclusion from Environmental Review. However, with appropriate regulatory oversight, the Department has concluded 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

Jeffery Wennberg, Commissioner of Public Works  
Sewage Force Main Replacement  
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact  
March 28, 2019

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, “*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 RF1-236,*” signed on March 26, 2019, and prepared by Shane Mullen, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.

**COPY LIST**

**Mark Ferguson**, Natural Heritage Zoologist, VT Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Bob Popp**, Department Botanist, VT Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Shea Miller**, Environmental Analyst, Wastewater Program, Watershed Management Division, VT-DEC

**Josh Carvajal, P.E. and Jaron Borg**, River Management Engineers, Rivers Program, Watershed Management Division, VT-DEC

**Zapata Courage**, District Wetland Ecologist, Wetlands Program, Watershed Management Division, VT-DEC

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



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

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

SUBJECT: City of Rutland  
Sewage Force Main (River Street Pump Station) Replacement

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

DATE: March 28, 2019

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A. Project Identification

Project Name: City of Rutland, Vermont  
Sewage Force Main (River Street Pump Station) Replacement

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

Project Location: The area generally described as the alignment from the River Street Pump Station, across East Creek, and terminating at the diversion valve vault outside the wastewater treatment facility (please refer to the maps in the supporting documentation) in the City of Rutland, Vermont.

Funding: Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-236

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 Sewage Force Main Replacement project.

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The Department has reviewed the following planning 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 RF1-236*,” signed on March 26, 2019, and prepared by Shane Mullen, P.E. from Weston & Sampson of Waterbury, Vermont.

A **Finding of No Significant Impact** (FONSI) is the appropriate environmental review response for this project. The project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed Environmental Review due to anticipated effects on a floodplain and other natural resources. However, with requisite regulatory oversight by the Rivers Management Program, 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 City intends to install a new parallel force main, extending from the River Street Pump Station to the diversion valve vault outside wastewater treatment facility. Construction is likely to progress as the following sequence:

- Use open trench excavation adjacent to the existing two force mains;
- Traverse East Creek via an open trenching with cofferdam in two stages;
- Temporarily shutdown the existing force main (leaving the 1992 force main in service);
- Connect the new force main to both the meter vault adjacent to the River Street Pump Station and the treatment facility valve vault; and
- Abandon the 1962 force main once construction is completed.

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 Department recognizes that the project includes construction in a floodplain and within East Creek. As the project progresses through design, the project engineer is to consult with River Management Engineers to confirm that any disturbance does not significantly impact these resources.

Further, as mitigation, the Department shall require future Engineering Services Agreement(s) to list coordination with the Rivers Management Program as a contracted task.

To conclude, the project does not require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). With regulatory oversight and appropriate mitigation, is not expected to negatively impact any natural resources.

Further, as evidenced by the Environmental Information Document, the project is not expected to directly or indirectly affect other aspects of the environment.

The Town held an Environmental Impact Hearing on February 4, 2019 to discuss project details with the public. Attendees did not raise objections or voice concerns about the project.

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Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

**City of Rutland, Vermont  
Sewage Force Main Replacement Project**

Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan: RF1-236

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Sewage Force Main (River Street Pump Station) Replacement.

Under the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program, the project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed Environmental Review due to anticipated effects on a floodplain and other natural resources.

As evidenced by the Environmental Information Document, the project is not expected to negatively impact other aspects of the environment. Further, with requisite regulatory oversight by the Rivers Management Program, 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 City held an Environmental Impact Hearing on February 4, 2019 to discuss project details with the public. Attendees did not raise objections or voice concerns about the project.

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 Intent, to allow for public response.



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

April 3, 2019

Date