



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

WATER INVESTMENT DIVISION
National Life Building, DAVIS 3
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510
FAX: (802)828-1552

William H. Kerbin Jr., Municipal Manager
& Authorized Representative
Town of Woodstock
31 The Green
P.O. Box 488
Woodstock, VT 05091

September 21, 2021
Expiration Date: August 6, 2026

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project
Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-266

Dear Mr. Kerbin:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Upgrade Project.

The project has positive environmental impacts consisting of the complete replacement of the existing WWTF that reached its expected life with a new WWTF in the same location. The new WWTF will improve water quality by employing treatment technologies that provide increased organic matter and nutrient removal.

A portion of the existing and new WWTF site is located within the floodway for Kedron Brook. The potential for impacts to the floodway will be minimized by prohibiting construction and post-construction activities in the floodway.

Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for a 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.

William Kerbin, Authorized Representative, Town of Woodstock
South Woodstock WWTF Upgrade Project
Finding of No Significant Impact
9/21/2021

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Fehrs, P.E.
Design & Construction Engineering Section

Enclosures:

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

- Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact signed by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division (enclosed.)
- Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact approved by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division (enclosed.)
- State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program (electronic copy available at <http://dec.vermont.gov/facilities-engineering/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>)

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

- Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*," prepared by Jennifer Austin, P.E., Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and dated 3/18/2021 (electronic copy available at <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=191877&DVID=0>).
- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled "*Preliminary Engineering Report, South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility*" prepared by Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and dated August 18, 2020 and amended February 3, 2021 (electronic copy available at <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=191876&DVID=0>).
- Historic Preservation Document titled "Determination of Eligibility Form," prepared by Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, and dated 5/21/2021 (electronic copy available at <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=191878&DVID=0>).

cc: Jamie Bates, Wastewater Program, Watershed Management Division, Vt DEC
Scott Dillon, HP Senior Review Coordinator, Division of Historic Preservation, Vt DHCP
Jennifer Auster, PE, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc.

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact**Town of Woodstock
South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project**

Vermont/USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: RF1-266

In accordance with section VII of the Department's *"Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program,"* the Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project. This project involves the complete replacement of the existing WWTF with a new WWTF in the same location

Under the Procedures, the project is ineligible for categorical exclusion from detailed environmental review (CatEx). The project involves potential impacts to the Kedron Brook floodway and therefore exceeds the threshold for a 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 WWTF and will not include sewer extensions.

Consideration of the FNSI included a review of the following document:

- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled "Preliminary Engineering Report, South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility" prepared by Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and dated August 18, 2020 and amended February 3, 2021.
- Environmental Information Document (EID) prepared by Jennifer Austin, P.E., Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and reviewed by William Kerbin, Authorized Representative for the Town of Woodstock, and dated 3/18/2021.
- Historic Preservation Document titled "Determination of Eligibility Form," prepared by Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, and dated 5/21/2021.

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

William H. Kerbin Jr., Municipal Manager
Town of Woodstock
31 The Green
P.O. Box 488
Woodstock, VT 05091

Phone: (802) 457-3456
e-mail: wkerbin@townofwoodstock.org

or

Jeff Fehrs, P.E
Water Investment Division
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

Phone: (802) 798-2094
jeff.fehrs@vermont.gov

(Note: National Life requires photo identification to obtain an access badge for entry and entry is likely limited due to the global pandemic.)

or

Jennifer Auster, PE
Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc.
125 College Street, 4th Floor
Burlington, VT 05401

Phone: (802) 860-1331
e-mail: jauster@hoyletanner.com

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 for Engineering
Water Investment Division
Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

September 21, 2021
Date

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation*Agency of Natural Resources*

TO: Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division

FROM: Jeff Fehrs, P.E., Design Engineer, Water Investment Division

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Town of Woodstock, South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project

DATE: September 21, 2021

A. Project Identification

Project Name: South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project

Project Owner: Town of Woodstock

Address: William H. Kerbin Jr., Municipal Manager & Authorized Representative
Town of Woodstock
31 The Green
P.O. Box 488
Woodstock, VT 05091

Project Location: 4548 South Road/Vermont Route 106, South Woodstock, Vermont. The existing and proposed upgraded Wastewater Treatment Facility discharge to Kendron Brook, which is located in the Black and Ottauquechee River Tactical Basin.

Vermont/USEPA Clean Water State Revolving Loan Number: RF1-266

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Water Investment 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 (EID) prepared by Jennifer Austin, P.E., Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and reviewed by William Kerbin, Authorized Representative for the Town of Woodstock, and dated 3/18/2021.
- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled "Preliminary Engineering Report, South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Facility" prepared by Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. and dated August 18, 2020 and amended February 3, 2021.
- Historic Preservation Document titled "Determination of Eligibility Form," prepared by Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, and dated 5/21/2021.

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) is the appropriate environmental determination 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 to potential for impacts to the Kendron Brook floodway. 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.

C. Project Description

The project will replace the existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) that reached or exceeded its expected life with a new WWTF in the same location. The proposed new WWTF will improve water quality by employing treatment technologies that provide increased organic matter and nutrient removal.

This work is expected to be constructed with a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan.

Eligibility for clean water revolving loan (CWSRF) construction funding will be limited to the eligible clean water work as detailed in the Preliminary Engineering Report and to physical areas cleared through this environmental review process.

The contract documents will contain standard requirements to limit hours of construction and to control noise, dust and discharges of stormwater runoff or pollutants during construction.

D. 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.

This project involves impacts to a floodplain; however, the impacts will be mitigated by locating the proposed new WWTF and associated construction activity outside the Kendron Brook floodway. 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).

Specifically, the project will not increase the design hydraulic capacity of the South Woodstock WWTF, nor will it increase the ability of the WWTF to serve an equivalent population by more than 30%. The project will not create a new permanent discharge of stormwater or treated wastewater to surface waters or groundwater, and there is no increase in effluent pollutant loadings (pounds per day) permitted to be discharged by the WWTF. The project does not include any extension of the wastewater collection system.

A public hearing regarding the FNSI was held on May 19, 2020 as part of a Town of Woodstock Selectboard meeting.