

State of Vermont
Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion

Dorset Fire District 1, WSID #5020
Dorset, VT
Water System Improvements
DWSRF Loan RF3-438

In accordance with Section VII of the Department's Environmental Review Procedures for projects funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program, the Dorset Fire District 1, located in Dorset, VT has requested its proposed water improvement project be evaluated for eligibility for a categorical exclusion exempting the project from detailed environmental procedures required for projects having a significant environmental impact.

Project Description: Replacement of 2,500 lineal feet of small diameter distribution mains; replacement of galvanized or lead service lines and associated lead appurtenances, estimated at a cumulative length of 17,500 lineal feet; penetration of the associated foundation wall to insert the new service lines into the property owner's basement; and modification of internal plumbing to install smart meters and associated appurtenances to meet the VT Plumbing Code.

The service area includes the Dorset Playhouse, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Dorset Village Historic District (also on the National Register). Additional buildings in the service area may be listed on the Register as well with many being more than 50 years old. The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation reviewed the project and concurs with a conditional No Adverse Effect as summarized in revised Phase I report dated May 2022 with updated Appendix/Table 4 and project plans. The construction contract will include conditions to protect the 18 archaeologically sensitive areas proposed to be avoided by directional drilling or pulling techniques. Stipulations will include contingency for additional archaeological testing as necessary.

<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=196306&DVID=0>
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=196307&DVID=0>

Our consideration of Dorset Fire District #1's request included reviewing environmental information and documentation completed and submitted by their engineering consultant, Otter Creek Engineering, Inc. At the completion of this independent evaluation, the Department has determined the project meets the criteria for receiving a Categorical Exclusion. The project will correct water system deficiencies and does not meet any of the criteria resulting in denial of an Exclusion.

Further information on the project and this determination are available for inspection by contacting the DWSRF Program at (802) 585-4904. In addition to the applicant, a copy of this determination will be sent to a list of stakeholders and posted on the Water Infrastructure Financing Program's [Environmental Review Determination Notice](#) page.

Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
John Beling, Commissioner

By

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

Dated in Montpelier, Vermont, Tuesday, August 2, 2022