



REGION 1

BOSTON, MA 02109

February 6, 2025

Jeremiah Ward, Director
Water Infrastructure Support Program
P.O. Box 1051
Northampton MA 01061

Re: Categorical Exclusion, FY2024 Community Grant for Cooperative Development Institute for North Avenue Co-op Infrastructure Upgrades, Burlington Vermont

Dear Mr. Ward:

In accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for implementing the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EPA is issuing a categorical exclusion (CATEX), pursuant to 40 CFR § 6.204, for infrastructure upgrades in Burlington Vermont. Specifically, the Cooperative Development Institute for North Avenue Co-op is seeking federal funds through an EPA Community Grant to provide critical upgrades to the aging potable water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure for the North Avenue Cooperative (NAC) in Burlington, VT.

After reviewing the environmental aspect of the project, EPA has determined that the project meets the CATEX eligibility criteria found in 40 CFR § 6.204(a)(1)(ii) since it involves minor rehabilitation and upgrades of existing water and wastewater infrastructure and its components.

This project does not involve new or relocated discharges to surface or ground water, an increase in the volume or loading of pollutants to receiving water, or an increase in the capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population. Further, it is not contrary to any state or regional growth plan or strategy; and it is not primarily for the purpose of future development.

EPA has concluded that the project will not cause significant adverse effects. EPA finds that the proposed action is eligible for exclusion from detailed environmental review under 40 CFR § 6.204(a)(1) and will not involve any of the extraordinary circumstances delineated under 40 CFR § 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10). Consequently, EPA will not prepare an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment for the proposed project. EPA may revoke this CATEX if new information or changes in the proposed action involve or relate to at least one of the extraordinary circumstances or otherwise indicate that the action may not meet the criteria for a CATEX.

As the Responsible Official, I have determined that this action is eligible for a CATEX per the substantive environmental review requirements under EPA regulations at 40 CFR § 6.204.

This CATEX is available for public viewing at EPA's website, <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-ii/public/action/nepa/search>, and has also been sent to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. Please note that we require all applicants to maintain a copy of this CATEX in the office of the authorized representative for inspection by any interested persons. If any such inspection results in dissatisfaction with the way the environmental effects have been addressed, our office should be notified immediately so that we can determine if modifications to the project are warranted.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact Camilla Kuo-Dahab at 617-918-1069, or Mark Spinale at 617-918-1547.

Sincerely,

Ken Moraff, Director
Water Division

ENCLOSURES

1. CATEX Checklist Review Form

cc: Cynthia Parks, VT DEC
Lynnette Claudon, VT DEC
Nathan Goldman, CDI North Ave. Co-op