

Craig Pelletier, Public Works Supervisor
Authorized Representative
Town of Berlin
108 Shed Road
Berlin, Vermont 05602

June 19, 2025

**Re: Town of Berlin, Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-283 1.1**

Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Dear Craig Pelletier:

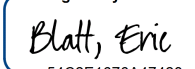
The Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the Town's proposed Berlin Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project may be excluded from the detailed environmental review procedures that are required for projects that have environmental effects. The Department's (Clean Water) environmental review procedures require a 30 day public comment period following the issuance of a Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion. If no public comments received during that period demonstrate that this Determination is in error, then the Categorical Exclusion exempting the project from detailed review will become effective.

Copies of documents supporting a Categorical Exclusion are enclosed. Please keep copies of the enclosed documents 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 contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send an email to hugo.martinez.cazon@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

Signed by:


Eric Blatt, PE

Director of Engineering
Water Investment Division

6/19/2025

Town of Berlin, Vermont

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Hospital Hill Sewer Repair, RF1-283 1.1

Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Documents Enclosed for Categorical Exclusion Public Comment Period (30 days)

1. *"Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion"*
(Signed by Eric Blatt, PE, Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division.)
2. *"Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion"*
(Approved by Eric Blatt, PE, Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division.)

Additional Documents Needed for Categorical Exclusion Public Comment Period (30 days)

1. *"**Environmental Review Procedures** for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program"*, <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=129684&DVID=0>
2. **Preliminary Engineering Report** (PER) entitled "Preliminary Engineering Report Supplemental" dated 6/11/24, by Shane M. Mullen, PE, CPESC of Weston & Sampson.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=213785&DVID=0>
3. **Preliminary Engineering Report Acceptance Letter**, dated 7/15/24
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=213784&DVID=0>
4. **Environmental Information Document** (EID) signed 11/15/24 by Shane Mullen PE of Weston & Sampson. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=211478&DVID=0>
5. Act 250 Jurisdictional Opinion and permitting correspondence, included in the above EID

COPY LIST

Shane Mullen, PE Weston & Sampson

Heather Collins, Wastewater Management Program, Watershed Management Division

Tom Brown, CWSRF Program Lead, Financial Management Section, VT-DEC-WID

Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion

Town of Berlin

Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Number RF1-283 1.1

In accordance with section VII of the Department's "*Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program*", the Town of Berlin has requested that its proposed Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project be evaluated for eligibility for a Categorical Exclusion from the detailed environmental review that is described in the Procedures and required for projects with significant environmental effects.

Consideration of the requests for Categorical Exclusion included a review of the following documents:

- **Environmental Information Document** (EID) 11/15/24 by Shane Mullen PE of Weston & Sampson.

Upon completion of its independent evaluation, the Department has determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Categorical Exclusion.

Specifically, the project will not increase the permitted annual average flow (hydraulic) capacity of the existing Town of Berlin, and it will not increase permitted pounds of pollutants that may be discharged by that plant. Also, the project will not increase the design organic (equivalent population) treatment capacity of the wastewater treatment plant. The project will not add a new permanent discharge of stormwater or treated wastewater to surface waters or groundwater. Further, the project does not involve (create) serious local or environmental issues or meet any of the criteria that would result in denial of an Exclusion, nor does the project meet the definition of sewer extension.

Town of Berlin, Vermont
Hospital Hill Sewer Repair, RF1-283 1.1
Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

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

Craig Pelletier, Public Works Supervisor
108 Shed Road
Town of Berlin
Berlin Vermont 05602

telephone 802 793 9158
publicworks@berlinvt.gov

Eric Blatt, Director of Engineering
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Investment Division
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

telephone 802 585 4901
eric.blatt@vermont.gov

(Note: National Life building requires photo identification to obtain an access badge for entry.)

Shane Mullen PE
Weston & Sampson
98 South Main Street, Suite 2
Waterbury, VT 05676

tel. 802 882 7032
mullens@wseinc.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.

Signed by:

Blatt, Eric

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Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering
Water Investment Division
Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

6/19/2025

Date



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

EC7 Water Investment Division

Agency of Natural Resources

1 National Life Drive
Main Building, 2ND Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

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

FROM: Hugo Martínez Cazón, PE MS, Water Investment Division

SUBJECT: Town of Berlin
Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion
from Detailed Environmental Review

DATE: 06/18/2025

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Hospital Hill Sewer Repair Project
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-283 1.1

Address: Craig Pelletier, Public Works Supervisor
Authorized Representative
Town of Berlin
108 Shed Rd.
Berlin, VT 05602

Project Location: Hospital Hill Sewer repair project, in the Town of Berlin, located at Route 62 beside the Central Vermont Medical Center parking lot, will reroute the segment of failing sewer line, to avoid an area of past slope failure. The Project is in the vicinity of the Stephens Branch and is within the Winooski River watershed. The project takes place within the Right of Way.

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 Town of Berlin has requested that the proposed Hospital Hill Sewer Line repair Project be evaluated for eligibility for a Categorical Exclusion from the detailed environmental review that is described in the Procedures and required for projects with significant environmental effects.

Town of Berlin**Hospital Hill Sewer Repair project, RF1-283 1.1****Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review**

The applicant's request and the following planning document have been reviewed, and our findings are summarized below:

Environmental Information Document (EID) 11/15/24 by Shane Mullen, PE of Weston & Sampson

1. Project Description

The Town of Berlin is located in Washington County, Vermont. The Hospital Hill Sewer repair project, in the Town of Berlin, located at Route 62 beside the Central Vermont Medical Center parking lot, will reroute the segment of failing sewer line, to avoid an area of past slope failure. The Project is in the vicinity of the Stephens Branch and is within the Winooski River watershed. The project takes place within the Right of Way. The project will re-establish proper function of the community sewer.

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. The contract conditions will include common construction practices to avoid involuntary taking of migratory birds.

2. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

We have determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Categorical Exclusion.

Specifically, the project will not increase the design hydraulic capacity of the wastewater treatment plant by more than 20 percent, and it will not increase the design organic treatment capacity (equivalent population served) by more than 30 percent.

The project will not create a new permanent discharge of stormwater or treated wastewater to surface waters or groundwater, and there will be no increase of effluent pollutant loadings (pounds per day) permitted to be discharged from associated wastewater treatment plant.

The project is not expected to adversely affect wetlands, wetlands buffer zones, floodplains, historic sites, archeological sites, habitats of threatened or endangered species, or other environmentally or culturally sensitive areas.

The project does not involve serious local or environmental issues or meet any of the criteria that would result in denial of a Categorical Exclusion.