



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

EC7 Water Investment Division

1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

Agency of Natural Resources

Mr. Paul Donaldson, Village Manager
Authorized Representative
Village of Poultney
9 Main St
Poultney, VT, 05764

10/30/2025

Expiration date: 10/30/2030

**Re: Village of Poultney, Wastewater Treatment Facility Project
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-348**

Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Dear Paul Donaldson:

The Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the village's proposed Village of Poultney, Wastewater Treatment Facility 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 call (802) 522-3562 if you have any questions or concerns.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send an email to Chloe.Hulsizer@Vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chloe Hulsizer".
8ACCAE33DAD1468...

10/30/2025

Chloe Hulsizer

Environmental Analyst IV
Water Investment Division

Village of Poultney, Vermont
Wastewater Treatment Facility Project
Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Page 2 of 2

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 "Village of Poultney, Vermont Wastewater Treatment Facility Preliminary Engineering Report" and dated October 2024, by Aldrich + Elliott, of Essex Junction, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=214180&DVID=0>
3. **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 1/24/25, by Jason R. Booth, PE, of Essex Junction, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=215229&DVID=0> and **Appendices** <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=215240&DVID=0>

COPY LIST

Jason R. Booth, PE, Aldrich + Elliott

Heather Collins, Wastewater Management Program, Watershed Management Division

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



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

EC7 Water Investment Division

1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion

Village of Poultney

Village of Poultney, Wastewater Treatment Facility Project

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Number RF1-348

In accordance with section VII of the Department's *"Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program"*, the Village of Poultney has requested that its proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility 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)** signed 1/24/25, by Jason R. Booth, PE, of Essex Junction, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=215229&DVID=0> and **Appendices** <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=215240&DVID=0>

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 hydraulic capacity of the existing Poultney Village Sewage Plant, 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 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 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.

Village of Poultney, Vermont
Wastewater Treatment Facility Project
Notice of Determination of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Page 2 of 2

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

Paul Donaldson, Village Manager
Village of Poultney
9 Main St
Poultney, VT, 05764

telephone (802) 287-9751
poultneymanager@comcast.net

Chloe Hulsizer
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Investment Division
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

tel. (802) 522-3562
Chloe.Hulsizer@Vermont.gov

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

Jason R. Booth, PE
Aldrich + Elliott
6 Market Place, Suite 2
Essex Junction, VT, 05452-0000

tel. (802) 879-1742
JBooth@AEengineers.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:

C13D237CC28247C

Emily Bird, Director
Water Investment Division

10/31/2025

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Initial


10/31/2025



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

EC7 Water Investment Division

1 National Life Drive

Main Building, 2ND Floor

Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Emily Bird, Director ^{Initial} EB 10/31/2025
FROM: Chloe Hulsizer ^{Initial} CH 10/30/2025
Environmental Analyst IV, Water Investment Division
SUBJECT: Village of Poultney
Wastewater Treatment Facility Project
Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion
from Detailed Environmental Review
DATE: 10/30/25

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Wastewater Treatment Facility Project

Address:

Paul Donaldson, Village Manager

Authorized Representative

Village of Poultney

9 Main St

Poultney, VT, 05764

Project Location: This project will be located at the existing Poultney Village Sewage Plant in the Village of Poultney, which is located off of the York Street Extension at the West end of York Street. The treatment plant is located in the Poultney River watershed.

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-348

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

EC7 Water Investment Division

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

Agency of Natural Resources

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 Village of Poultney has requested that the proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility 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.

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

Environmental Information Document (EID) signed 1/24/25, by Jason R. Booth, PE, of Essex Junction, VT.

1. Project Description

The Village of Poultney is located in Rutland County, Vermont.

This project addresses any old or failing equipment at the current Wastewater Treatment Facility in Poultney, Vermont. This involves the repairment of the existing influent screen, refurbishing the current Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) equipment, and addressing all other age-related shortcomings at the facility. The proposed project will refurbish the current SBR, the influent wet well, and will upgrade the existing influent pumps and influent control panel, the level control, the UV system, the Motor Control Center (MCC), the automatic transfer switch, the dry type transformers, all VFDs, existing surge protectors, the SCADA computer and software, all lighting, the plant alarm system, and the boiler. A large quantity of the treatment equipment at the current facility is past its useful life, which could lead to health concerns and could lead to the hydraulic capacity of the system to be not fully utilized by the service area. The project will refurbish the wastewater treatment facility to address the current needs of the facility and to prevent health or sanitation issues resulting from the use of old equipment. The hydraulic capacity of the existing wastewater treatment system is additionally not being fully utilized, and this refurbishment could allow for growth in the village.

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.

To preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve Vermont's natural resources, and protect human health, for the benefit of this and future generations.

Village of Poultney**Wastewater Treatment Facility****Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review****October 30, 2025**

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.

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.