



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

Chad Whitehead, Town Manager
Authorized Representative
Town of Saint Johnsbury
51 Depot Square, Suite 3
St. Johnsbury, VT, 05819

1/22/2026
Expiration Date: 1/22/2031

**Re: Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements Project
Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number RF3-587
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Number 06140-2023-ARPA-CSO-01**

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

Dear Chad Whitehead:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements Project.

The project has positive environmental impacts. This project area was identified as part of the town's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Long Term Control plan. The project will help to reduce overflows from one of the town's largest CSOs, ultimately preventing overflows from entering local water sources.

This project additionally involves impacts including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains and construction in close proximity to hazardous sites.

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).

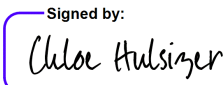
The Department's environmental review procedures require a 30-day public comment period following the issuance of a Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact. If no public comments

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Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements
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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 list of the documents that must be available for public inspection is attached. Please call 802-522-3562 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

8ACCAE33DAD1468... 1/20/2026
Chloe Hulsizer
Environmental Analyst IV
Water Investment Division

Enclosures

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

1. Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (Signed by Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)
2. Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact (Approved by Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)
3. State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program, <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>

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

4. Environmental Information Document titled "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*", and dated 12/12/2025, by Andrea Day, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=217027&DVID=0>

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5. Long Term Control Plan entitled "*Long Term Control Plan for Town of Saint Johnsbury Combined Sewer*", and dated 3/1/21, by Dufresne Group.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=216654&DVID=0>

COPY LIST

Heather Collins and Sherri Kasten, Wastewater Program, VT-DEC
Eric Deratzian, Regional Engineer, VT-DEC, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division
Scott Dillon and Elizabeth Peebles, Division for Historic Preservation, ACCD
Daniel Gray, Chief Water System Operator, Town of Saint Johnsbury
Ethan Graham, Assistant Chief Wastewater Operator, Town of Saint Johnsbury
Andrea Day, PE, Dufresne Group
Winn Wilson, Water Investment Division, VT-DEC



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Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Investment Division
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620

802-522-3562

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

**Town of Saint Johnsbury
Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements**

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: RF3-587
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Number 06140-2023-ARPA-CSO-01

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 (FONSI) for the proposed Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements Project. This project involves the installation of 3200 feet of bypass sewer and the replacement of 3200 feet of water main. The project will additionally replace a river crossing water main that failed in 2024 by hanging the new water main over an existing bridge.

Under the Procedure, the project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) from detailed environmental review. The project involves impacts including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains and in close proximity to hazardous sites and therefore exceeds the threshold for 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 treatment plant, and the project will not include sewer extensions.

Consideration of the FONSI included a review of the following documents:

- **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 12/12/2025, by Andrea Day, PE, of St. Johnsbury, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=217027&DVID=0>

Town of Saint Johnsbury
Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements
Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
1/22/2026

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

Chad Whitehead, Town Manager
 Town of Saint Johnsbury
 51 Depot Square, Suite 3
 St. Johnsbury, VT, 05819

tel. 802-748-3926
 cwhitehead@stjvt.com

Chloe Hulsizer
 Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
 Water Investment Division
 1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
 Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

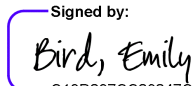
tel. 802-522-3562
 Chloe.Hulsizer@Vermont.gov

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

Andrea Day, PE
 Dufresne Group
 459 Portland Street, Suite 102
 St Johnsbury, VT, 05819

tel. 802-748-8605
 aday@dufresnegroup.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:

 C43D2376C28247C...
 Emily Bird, Director
 Water Investment Division

1/23/2026

 Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
 Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Initial

 1/22/2026



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division ^{Initial}  1/23/2026

FROM: Chloe Hulsizer, ^{Initial}  Environmental Analyst IV, Water Investment Division 1/20/2026

SUBJECT: Town of Saint Johnsbury
Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact

DATE: 1/22/2026

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Town of Saint Johnsbury
Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements

Address: Chad Whitehead, Authorized Representative
Town of Saint Johnsbury
51 Depot Square, Suite 3
St. Johnsbury, VT, 05819

Project Location: Town of Saint Johnsbury, Vermont
This project will be located in Saint Johnsbury, Vermont, in the Passumpsic River major watershed. The installation of the sewer main and the replacement of the water main will take place in the Bay Street right-of-way, and the new water main will be hung over an existing bridge on the Passumpsic River.

Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF3-587**
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Number: **06140-2023-ARPA-CSO-01**

Chad Whitehead, Authorized Representative, Town of Saint Johnsbury
Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Bay Street Water Main Replacement and Sewer Improvements
Vermont/ USEPA Drinking Water Loan Number RF3-587
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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 titled "Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document", and 12/12/2025, by Andrea Day, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=217027&DVID=0>
- Long Term Control Plan entitled "*Long Term Control Plan for Town of Saint Johnsbury Combined Sewer*", and dated 3/1/21, by Dufresne Group.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=216654&DVID=0>

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is the appropriate environmental review response 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 impacts including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains and construction in close proximity to hazardous sites. 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.

1. Project Description

The Town of Saint Johnsbury is located in Caledonia County, Vermont in the Passumpsic River major watershed.

This project involves the installation of 3200 feet bypass sewer and the replacement of 3200 feet of water main in St. Johnsbury, VT. The project will additionally replace a river crossing water main that failed in 2024 by hanging the new water main over an existing bridge. The town of Saint Johnsbury is currently under a 1272 Order from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources to develop a long-term control plan to reduce combined sewer overflows in the area. The installation of a bypass sewer is one of the recommendations in the long-term control plan to avoid combined sewer overflows in the future, ultimately preventing pollutants from entering the environment. Another issue identified in the long-term control plan is aging infrastructure, which the water main replacement will address.

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1/22/2026

This work is expected to be constructed with Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant.

Eligibility for drinking water revolving loan (DWSRF) construction funding will be limited to the eligible drinking 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.

2. 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 potential environmental impacts including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains and construction in close proximity to hazardous sites. Mitigation measures include:

1. The placement of temporary gravel for heavy machinery and construction access is permitted on a temporary (180-day) basis. No staging or temporary storage of any other materials is permitted. Detail the suitable dry and wet flood proofing measures as required by the project. Measures will preserve or reduce the pre-construction ground elevation.
2. Owner will submit a Soils Management Plan to DEC for review and approval for the wasting, transportation, and disposal of any identified contaminated soil materials. Additional measures include alternative pipe materials to address potential incompatibility. Include the use of bentonite dams, to preclude migration of affected groundwater through pipe bedding.

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 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 does not include sewer extensions.

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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.

A public hearing will be held on January 26, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Saint Johnsbury town Selectboard Meeting as part of this FONSI process.