



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

Nicolas Storrellicastro, City Manager
Authorized Representative
City of Barre
6 North Main Street Suite 2
Barre, VT, 05641

5/19/2026
Expiration Date: 5/19/2031

**Re: Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Headworks Refurbishment Project
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-356**

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

Dear Nicolas Storrellicastro:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment Project.

The project has positive environmental impacts consisting of the renewal of wastewater treatment infrastructure to prevent failures and to prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into the local environment.

This project additionally involves impacts including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains, and an increase in influent 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) organic treatment capacity.

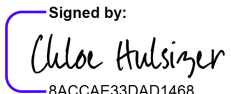
Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

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 received during that period demonstrate that this Notice of Intent is in error, then the Finding of No Significant Impact will become effective.

Nicolas Storellicastro, Authorized Representative, City of Barre
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment
Finding of No Significant Impact

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:
 5/19/2026
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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 (EID) titled "*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*", and dated 1/16/2024, by Wright-Pierce.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=218822&DVID=0>
5. Updated EID Mitigation Measures.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220023&DVID=0>
6. Preliminary Engineering Report entitled "*Headworks Improvements Preliminary Engineering Report*", and dated 3/4/2024, by Kristen Lemasney, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=209119&DVID=0>

Nicolas Storellicastro, Authorized Representative, City of Barre
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment
Finding of No Significant Impact
5/19/2026

COPY LIST

Heather Collins and John Merrifield, Wastewater Program, VT-DEC
Eric Deratzian, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division, VT-DEC
Scott Dillon and Elizabeth Peebles, Division for Historic Preservation, ACCD
Brian Baker, Public Works Director, City of Barre
Michael Mainer, PE, Aldrich + Elliott, PC
Kenneth Bisceglia, PE, & Lynnette Claudon, PE, Water Investment Division, VT-DEC

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5/19/2026



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Agency of Natural Resources

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

**City of Barre
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment**

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: RF1-356

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 Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment Project. This project involves improvements to the WWTF Headworks, which include a new influent screen, a new grit removal unit, a new grit washer, a new headworks building, and the demolition of the existing headworks building.

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 an increase in BOD5 organic treatment capacity, 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. The project does address the observed average 2021 influent BOD5 load (8,876 lb./day) which is 26% greater than the original average BOD5 load.

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

- **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 1/16/2024, by Wright-Pierce, of Burlington, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=218822&DVID=0>
- **Updated EID Mitigation Measures.**
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220023&DVID=0>

City of Barre

Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment Project

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

5/19/2026

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

Nicolas Storrellicastro, City Manager
City of Barre
6 North Main Street Suite 2
Barre, VT, 05641

tel. (802) 476-0240
citymanager@barrecity.org

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

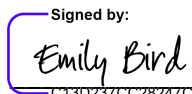
(Note: National Life requires photo identification to obtain an access badge for entry.)

Michael Mainer, PE
Aldrich + Elliott, PC
6 Market Place, Suite 2
Essex Junction, VT 05452

tel. (802) 879-7733
mmainer@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

5/19/2026

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division ^{Initial} EB 5/19/2026

FROM: Chloe Hulsizer, ^{Initial} CH 5/19/2026
Environmental Analyst IV, Water Investment Division

SUBJECT: City of Barre
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact

DATE: 5/19/2026

A. Project Identification

Project Name: City of Barre
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment

Address: Nicolas Storellicastro, Authorized Representative
City of Barre
6 North Main Street Suite 2
Barre, VT, 05641

Project Location: City of Barre, Vermont
The project is located in the City of Barre, Winooski River basin, at 69
Treatment Plant Drive.

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF1-356**

Nicolas Storellicastro, Authorized Representative, City of Barre
Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-356
5/19/2026

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 1/16/2024, by Wright-Pierce.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=218822&DVID=0>
- Updated EID Mitigation Measures.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220023&DVID=0>
- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled “Headworks Improvements Preliminary Engineering Report”, and dated 3/4/2024 by Kristen Lemasney, PE.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=209119&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 an increase in the BOD5 organic treatment capacity. 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 City of Barre is located in Washington County, Vermont in the Winooski major watershed.

The project includes the construction of an influent multi-rake screen, a vortex grit removal unit, a grit washer, a new Headworks building, and associated ancillary systems and building system equipment. The existing Headworks building will be demolished, and sitework will be done to accommodate the new Headworks building and the relocation of the influent channel. The Headworks building will be connected to the electrical and communications systems in the Control building. The Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)’s Headworks system has been identified as the City’s highest priority for improvements at the WWTF. These upgrades will prevent failure of the system and protect the Winooski River, which the WWTF discharges to.

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Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-356
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This work is expected to be constructed with Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan.

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.

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 including construction within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains, and an increase in BOD5 organic treatment capacity.

Mitigation measures:

1. **Flood Risk Management:** The placement of temporary gravel for heavy machinery and construction access is permitted on a temporary (180 days) basis. No staging or temporary storage of any other materials is permitted. All upgraded critical equipment will be protected to the 100-year flood level plus three feet, and located above the 500-year flood elevation. Measures will preserve or reduce the pre-construction ground elevation. The lowest floor, including basement, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities designed so that to the determined elevation the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy.
2. **Dust and Noise:** Practices to limit these impacts will be required, such as: regular sweeping, erosion prevention and sediment control measures, calcium chloride or water application, and work will be limited to normal 7 am to 5 pm weekday working hours.

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).

Nicolas Storellicastro, Authorized Representative, City of Barre
Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact
Wastewater Treatment Facility Headworks Refurbishment
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5/19/2026

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.

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 was held on February 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Barre City Council Meeting as part of this FONSI process and no public comments were received.