



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

EC7 Water Investment Division

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

Agency of Natural Resources

Thomas DiPietro Jr., Director of Public Works
Authorized Representative
City of South Burlington
180 Market Street
South Burlington, VT, 05403

7/8/2026

Re: City of South Burlington, South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School Project

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-289

Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Dear Tom:

The Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that the City's proposed City of South Burlington, South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School 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 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.

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

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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7/8/2026

Chloe Hulsizer
Environmental Analyst IV
Water Investment Division

City of South Burlington, Vermont

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South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School

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 Emily Bird, Director, Water Investment Division.)
2. *"Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion"*
(Approved by Emily Bird, Director, 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. **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 7/7/2026, by Joe Bartlett, CFM, of Colchester, VT. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220744&DVID=0>
3. **Environmental Information Document Appendices** by Fitzgerald Environmental Associates. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220651&DVID=0>

COPY LIST

Julia Keay, Geosyntec

Joe Bartlett, CFM & Jake Campbell, Fitzgerald Environmental Associates

Brett McCreary, South Burlington Deputy Director of Water Resources

Garrett Walsh, South Burlington Stormwater Superintendent

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

Winn Wilson & Lynnette Claudon, PE, Design and Construction Engineering Section, VT-DEC-WID

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7/8/2026



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

City of South Burlington

City of South Burlington, South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School Project

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Number RF1-289

In accordance with section VII of the Department's *"Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/EPA Revolving Loan Program"*, the City of South Burlington has requested that its proposed South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School 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:

1. **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 7/7/2026, by Joe Bartlett, CFM, of Colchester, VT.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220744&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.

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.

City of South Burlington, Vermont

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South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School

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

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

Thomas DiPietro Jr., Director of Public Works
City of South Burlington
180 Market Street
South Burlington, VT, 05403

telephone (802) 658-7976
tdipietro@southburlingtonvt.gov

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.)

Joe Bartlett, CFM
Fitzgerald Environmental Associates
164 Main Street, Suite 2
Colchester, VT, 05446

tel. (802) 876-7778
joe@feavt.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:


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Emily Bird, Director
Water Investment Division

7/9/2026

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



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, Water Investment Division Initial
EB 7/9/2026

FROM: Chloe Hulsizer
Environmental Analyst IV, Water Investment Division Initial
CH 7/8/2026

SUBJECT: City of South Burlington
South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion
from Detailed Environmental Review

DATE: 7/8/2026

A. Project Identification

Project Name: South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School Project

Address:

Thomas DiPietro Jr., Director of Public Works
Authorized Representative
City of South Burlington
180 Market Street
South Burlington, VT, 05403

Project Location: This project involves the construction of stormwater infrastructure at Rice Memorial High School at 99 Proctor Ave, South Burlington, VT. The project will be located within the Englesby Brook and Potash Brook watersheds.

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-289

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 City of South Burlington has requested that the proposed South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School 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:

1. **Environmental Information Document (EID)** signed 7/7/2026, by Joe Bartlett, CFM, of Colchester, VT.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=220744&DVID=0>

1. **Project Description**

The City of South Burlington is located in Chittenden County, Vermont.

This project involves the construction of two new manholes, a hydrodynamic separator, storm lines, a gravel wetland, and a dry retention basin with a sediment forebay at the Rice Memorial High School. The gravel wetland will be constructed on a green space in the northwest portion of the site. The existing stormwater infrastructure on the high school's site will be routed to the new gravel wetland, and the gravel wetland will discharge to the existing storm sewer pipe along Proctor Ave. The wetland will be lined with a non-permeable liner. The new stormwater infrastructure on the Rice Memorial High School site will be constructed to help obtain the target of the Englesby Brook Thermal Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), as the existing stormwater pond on the site is not adequately sized for the drainage area.

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.

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

City of South Burlington

South Burlington 3 Acre Stormwater Retrofit Designs - Rice Memorial High School

Evaluation of Eligibility for Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

7/8/2026

2. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

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

The project will not create a new permanent discharge of stormwater or treated wastewater to surface waters or groundwater.

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.