



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

JOHN J. KIM, DIRECTOR

Project Summary and Notice of Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Date: MAR 15 2022

Loan Applicant: City of St. Charles

IEPA Loan Project Number: L176093

To all interested persons:

Section 365.330 of the Illinois Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP) requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) publish a Notice of Categorical Exclusion for proposed wastewater projects which are of such limited scope and have little or no potential for causing negative environmental impacts. Prior to granting its approval of the project plan, the Agency requires that the public be granted an opportunity to comment as to whether in fact the project should be precluded from the formal environmental review process and public hearing.

The IEPA has reviewed the above cited project plan and concurs with the applicant's finding that the proposed project is technically appropriate and cost effective. Unless new information provided through the public comment process causes reconsideration, the Agency will approve this planning at the close of the public comment period.

The applicant is required to public notice that the Agency has issued the attached Notice of Intent to Issue a Categorical Exclusion. This document, along with the project planning, must be made available for public inspection, allowing 10 days for public comment. During this comment period, written comments may be provided to the applicant or directly to the IEPA contact person identified in the attached document.

For information purposes only, a copy of this document is being provided to your local newspaper of record.

Your interest and participation in this process are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Heidi Allen
Pre-Construction Unit Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Bureau of Water

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Attachment

Notice of Intent to Issue a Categorical Exclusion

In accordance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Loan Rules, Title 35, Subtitle F, Chapter II, Part 365.330 (State Environmental Review), the IEPA has determined that the proposed project, described below, may be excluded from a detailed environmental impacts review. The Agency may categorically exclude certain types of projects from environmental review if no potential for negative environmental impacts exists. This project qualifies for an exclusion because all construction will be confined to the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility (WTF) site.

This report is based on information submitted to the IEPA by the City of St. Charles. Sources of information include the following documents: UV Disinfection Rehabilitation Project Supplemental Memorandum to the Main WTF 2015 Facility Plan Update, prepared by Trotter and Associates, Inc. dated October 2021, and additional information compiled by the IEPA.

Part I – Project Information

Project Name: UV Disinfection Rehabilitation Project

Loan Applicant: City of St. Charles

NPDES Permit Number: IL0022705

Counties: Kane & DuPage

Project Number: L176093

Current Population: 32,887

Future Population (20 year): 56,254

Design Average Flow: 9.0 MGD

Design Maximum Flow: 18.35 MGD

Project Description: The existing Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection System will be replaced. Simultaneously a second unit will be installed. A structure will be built around the equipment to extend its service life. The non-potable water (NPW) system will also be replaced. The work will require an IEPA Construction Permit.

Project Location: See attached map for project location.

Project Justification: In 2005, an Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection System was installed. In addition, a second channel was constructed for installation of a parallel system in the future if the facility was upgraded to utilize UV disinfection of excess flow. UV disinfection technology has advanced greatly over the last seventeen years, and it is recommended that the existing system be replaced. System components are exhibiting a great deal of wear due to year-round exposure to the elements. The controllers for the system, as well as hydraulic lines and pumps, should be replaced. Additionally, since installation parts for the control board are no longer available, any needed parts will become a replacement project of the entire control board, which increases the maintenance cost of the system. Also, in 2005 an NPW system was installed just downstream of the UV disinfection channels to provide wash water from the treated effluent, which is used for several purposes around the wastewater treatment plant site. The NPW system for the plant is nearing the limits of its capacity and must be upgraded.

Estimated Construction Start Date: Spring 2023

Estimated Construction Completion Date: Spring 2024

Project Cost Estimate: \$4,040,171.00

Part II – Project Affordability for Residents and Utility Customers

Annual repayments on a WPCLP loan in the amount of \$4,040,171.00 at the current loan program interest rate of 1.11% for a term of twenty (20) years are \$226,374.99.

The WPCLP interest rate adjusts annually on July 1st. All loans are subject to the interest rate in effect at the time a loan agreement is issued. The loan program rules include provisions for incentives such as reduced interest rates, partial principal forgiveness, and extended repayment periods for qualifying applicants. The criteria used to determine incentive qualification are found in Sections 365.210 and 365.250 of the Procedures for Issuing Loans from the WPCLP, which is available on the Agency's website. The final decision for incentive qualification will be determined at the time a loan agreement is issued, using updated Census Bureau and Department of Labor data. Using current data, the City is not eligible to receive any incentives.

Source of Loan Repayment: User Fees.

Current Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: \$62.43 per month.

Projected Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: \$81.59 per month.

Average Monthly Residential Water Use: 6,000 gallons

Number of Customers or Service Connections: 12,337

How is the monthly residential rate/cost of service calculated? Users are charged \$6.55 per 1,000 gallons of water used, plus a Monthly Demand Charge of \$20.86 per month, and a Mandate Charge of \$2.45 per month. The total is \$62.43 per month.

(6.0 units * \$6.55/thousand gal) + (\$20.68 demand charge) + (\$2.45 mandate) = \$62.43/month

The current City of St. Charles sewer use rate structure is set forth in Title 13, Chapter 12, Section 830 of the City Code. The rate structure is reviewed and changed accordingly on an annual basis. Current projected rates show a 5.50% annual increase for the next four years. In 2026, the average rate is expected to be \$81.59 per month.

Median Household Income (MHI): \$98,393.00.

Financial evaluation of the proposed project: To evaluate the costs of the proposed project for the community, a percentage comparison of the MHI to the average, annual cost for waste water service is utilized. The above information only applies to wastewater collection and treatment. The MHI listed above is from the current fiscal year's census information. The proposed annual cost for waste water treatment of \$979.08 is 1.00% of the MHI for the area. The percentage is for comparison only and has no impact on whether a project qualifies for funding from the IEPA. The percentage comparison and MHI are two of several criteria used to determine whether a loan project qualifies for interest rate reductions or principal forgiveness.

Public comments are invited on the proposed project. For further information contact:

George Lambert, Project Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water

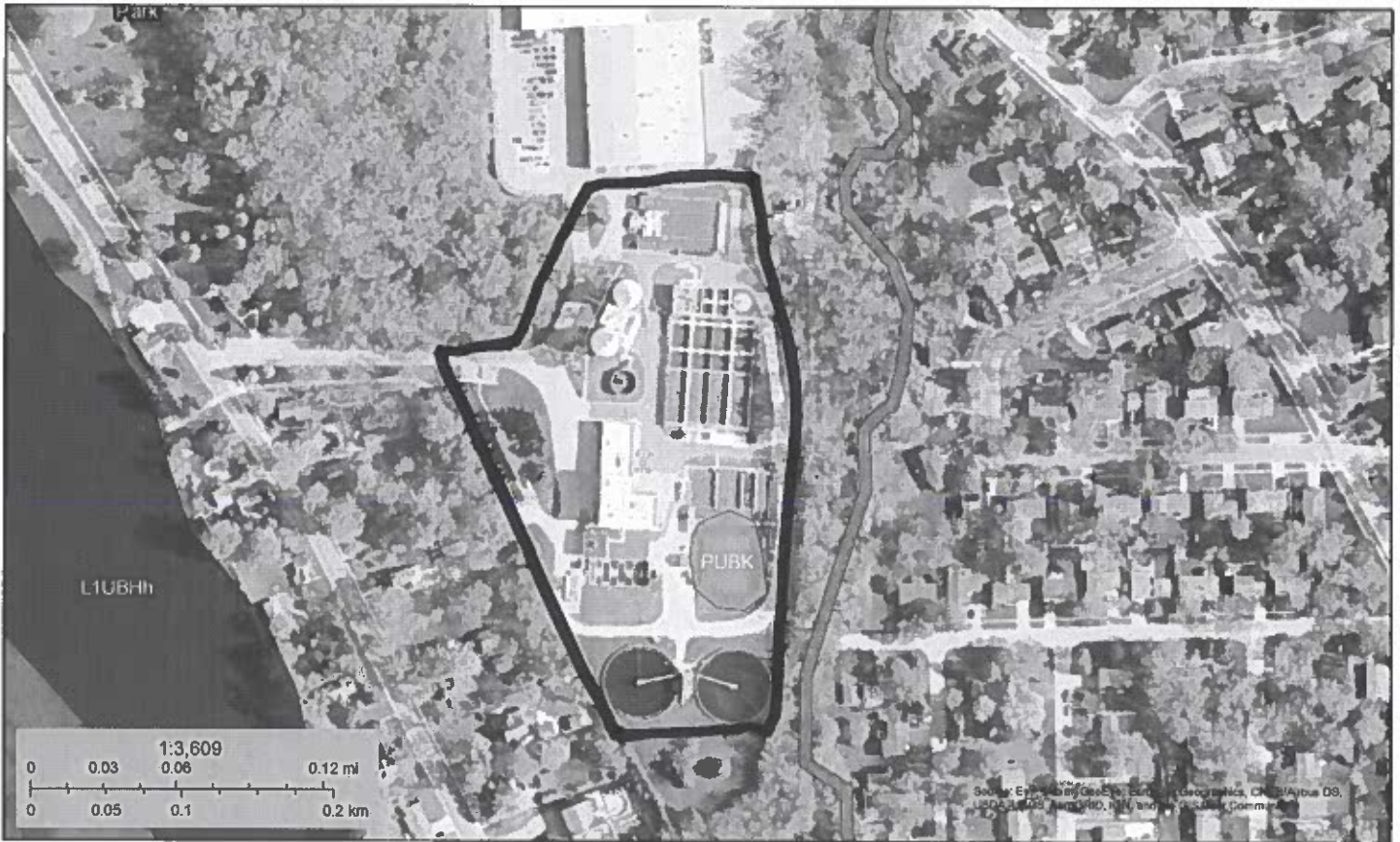
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
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(217)782-2027



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

St. Charles Main WWTF



October 11, 2021

Wetlands

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estuarine and Marine Deepwater | <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater Emergent Wetland | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estuarine and Marine Wetland | <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater Pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverine |

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.