



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**CITY OF LAPORTE
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT, ADDENDUM #4
VALVE INSERTION EQUIPMENT PURCHASE
WATER SUPPLY, TREATMENT, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
SRF # DW10144501**

Date: November 5th, 2012

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the city's Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #4 received by the SRF on October 5, 2012 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

Amy Henninger, Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-232-6566; ahenning at ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Water Supply, Treatment, Storage and Distribution
Improvements
Preliminary Engineering Report, Addendum #4,
Valve Insertion Equipment Purchase
City of LaPorte
801 Michigan Avenue
LaPorte, IN 46350

SRF Project Number: DW 10144501

Authorized Representative: Honorable Blair Milo, Mayor

II. PROJECT LOCATION

LaPorte is located in LaPorte County in northwestern Indiana. The equipment that is to be purchased would be used throughout the community by utility personnel.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The valve insertion equipment proposed to be purchased by this Preliminary Engineering Report, Addendum #4 would allow utility personnel to install valves in areas of the City that need valves placed to allow for better operation of the water distribution system as well as replace inoperable, leaky or broken existing valves.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

The estimated cost for the valve insertion equipment is approximately \$52,162 dollars. This equipment will be purchased with funds remaining in the loan DW 10144501.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The valve insertion equipment would be used at various locations within the city, but all locations would be over existing water mains in previously disturbed area.

The project will not affect streams, wetlands, wooded areas, the 100-year floodplain or other sensitive environmental resources and will not convert prime farmland.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The purchase of the valve insertion equipment was discussed at a properly noticed public meeting on October 15, 2012 during the regular session of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting at 5:00 pm in the City Council Chambers.