



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

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

GARY SANITARY DISTRICT 15TH AND CLAY PUMP STATION GRIT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – AMENDMENT 2 SRF Project WW 23 15 45 01

Date: November 14, 2024

Pursuant to IC 5-1.2-3, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the amendment to Gary Sanitary District's Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion (CE) 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. In the absence of significant comments, the attached CE shall serve as the final environmental document.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

April Douglas
Environmental Review Coordinator
SRF Programs
317-234-7294
adouglas@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: 15th and Clay Pump Station Grit System
Improvements Project – Amendment 2
Gary Sanitary District
3600 West 3rd Avenue
Gary, IN 46406

SRF Project Number: **WW 23 15 45 01**

Authorized Representative: Brenda Scott-Henry, Interim Executive Director

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The 15th and Clay Pump Station is located at the 4600 E. 15th Avenue, Gary, Indiana. Project is located in Lake County, Gary 24K Quadrangle, Calumet Township, Township 36N, Range 8W and Section 12. See **Figure 1**.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The existing grit system for the 15th and Clay Pump Station has been inoperable since 2011, adversely impacting the operation and life span of the pump station equipment and downstream treatment processes. The proposed project will replace the existing grit removal and processing equipment, improving operations and pumping, conveyance, and treatment capacities within the system.

The 15th & Clay Grit Systems Improvements project includes:

- New grit detritor equipment;
- New grit pumps and piping;
- New grit classifier equipment; and
- Electrical, controls, mechanical, and structural modifications to accommodate new equipment.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

Total cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$1,335,000. The Gary Sanitary District will finance the project with a loan from the Clean Water SRF Loan Program for a term and annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The environmental impacts will be minimal. All project activities will take place in areas previously disturbed by installation of the existing pump station. The proposed project will not affect streams, floodplains, wetlands, wooded areas, 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 National Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on May 1, 2023, at 1 pm at the Gary Sanitary District, 3600 West 3rd Avenue, Gary, IN. There were no questions on this project during the hearing. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing for this project.



Figure No. 1
 Gary Sanitation District
 15th and Clay Street Pump Station - Site Plan
 JULY 2022



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