



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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July 29, 2009

Issuance of A Limited Environmental Review
To All Interested Citizens, Organizations, and
Government Agencies

Filtration Plant East Pump Replacement
City of Portsmouth
Scioto County
FS390751

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that Ohio EPA has reviewed the referenced project and finds neither a Supplemental Study (SS) nor an Environmental Assessment (EA) is required to implement the project as discussed in the attached Limited Environmental Review (LER). Consequently, a Finding of No Significant Impact is being issued for this project.

The Water Supply Revolving Loan Account program requires the inclusion of environmental factors in the decision-making process for project approval. Ohio EPA has done this by incorporating a detailed analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed action in its review and approval process. Environmental information was developed as part of the general plan, as well as through the general plan review process. A subsequent review by this Agency has found that the proposed action does not require the preparation of either an EA or an SS.

Our environmental review concluded that because the proposed project is limited in scope and meets all applicable criteria, a LER is warranted. Specifically:

- The proposed project will have no significant adverse environmental effect, nor will it adversely affect any specific resource type.
- It will not require extensive general or specific direct impact mitigation since all construction will involve replacing old equipment with new in an existing building.
- It will not affect current design flow value, the existing service area, or the treated water characteristics.
- It is clearly cost effective and will facilitate permit compliance.
- It is not controversial.

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

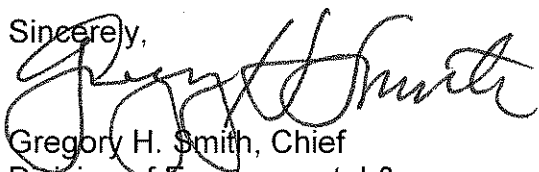
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- It will not result in any increase in the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants to receiving water.

The LER presents additional information on the proposed project, costs and the basis for our decision. Further information can be obtained by calling or writing the contact person listed on the back of the LER.

Upon issuance of this determination, loan award may proceed without being subject to further environmental review or public comment, unless information is provided which determines that environmental conditions on the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,



Gregory H. Smith, Chief
Division of Environmental &
Financial Assistance

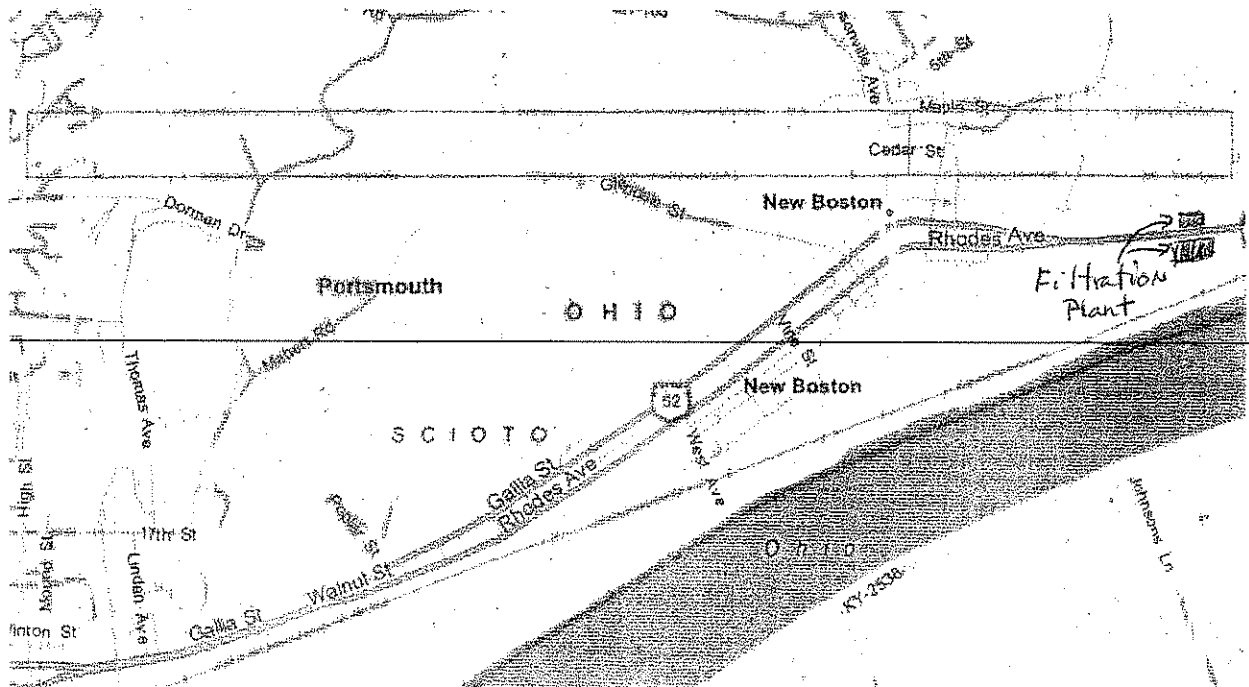
LLER

Summary of Need

The City of Portsmouth, in Scioto County, Ohio, is seeking \$42,221 in funding from the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSLRA) and \$42,221 in principal forgiveness through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009. These funds will be applied to the purchase and installation of two high-service pumps to replace two aging and disused pumps at the city's drinking water Filtration Plant.

The Filtration Plant is located at 4862 Gallia Street in Portsmouth (Figure 1). It operates under Public Water System ID #7300111. It treats water from the Ohio River by conventional filtration, MIEC filtration, clearwell detention and high service pumping of finished water to the service area. Its capacity is 12 million gallons per day (MGD). Its average daily and maximum daily water production is 5.12 MGD and 9.92 MGD, respectively. Treated water is distributed to users within the city and to eleven satellite public water systems via Scioto Water, Inc.

The Filtration Plant is designed to operate with two pairs of high service pumps. The west portion of the system is currently served by a single 7.5 MGD pump while the east side uses two 2.0 MGD pumps to pressurize the system. The smaller pumps are antiquated and no longer able to handle the growing distribution area. The proposed project would replace these small pumps with larger equipment that could adequately service the Basham area. These new pumps will reduce electrical usage at the WTP by not only being more efficient than the ones they are replacing but will also allow the facility to cease use of their large pump in favor of a smaller 6 MGD unit to serve the west side.



The old pumps will be removed and new variable speed high service pumps with rated capacities of 2,083 gpm each will be installed in their place. These 3 MGD pumps will allow both halves of the system to be adequately served but drastically decrease the electrical usage for the WTP. The replacement will involve removing the old pumps from their concrete pads and installing the new pumps in the same places. Electrical service upgrades and telemetry will also be installed.

Implementation

The total as-bid project cost is \$84,442. ARRA and the WSRLA loan are the only funding sources for this project. The ARRA funding is in the form of principal forgiveness, which does not need to be repaid. The loan carries a zero-percent interest rate. Its principal will be repaid through the existing water rates, which are \$612 annually for 1,000 cubic feet.

Initiation of construction will be in August, 2009, with operation commencing in September, 2009.

Public Participation

No specific public participation is considered necessary because this project has no potential adverse environmental impact, is not involved in an increase in overall Filtration Plant capacity, involves no change in treatment process and involves no rate increase to service debt. Public comment to this Limited Environmental Review may be addressed to the contact person listed below.

Conclusion

The proposed improvements constitute a project type that qualifies for a Limited Environmental Review (LER). Specifically, they involve stationary equipment replacement that meets the following criteria:

The project will have no significant adverse environmental effects, will not adversely affect high value environmental resources and will not require extensive general or specific impact mitigation. It is equipment replacement that will be done entirely within an existing water treatment plant structure. It will not involve excavation, tree removal, wetland filling, work in surface waters or any other activity that could impact natural features. It will not result in the expansion of the service area. It will not affect cultural resources. Because of the lack of potential impacts, no construction impact mitigation such as erosion control is needed.

It is clearly cost-effective. The existing small pumps are approximately 30 years old and must run 24 hours a day to maintain pressure in the system. Also, the system must operate its very large pump to compensate for the lack of output from the smaller pumps. This project will drastically reduce the energy consumption at the WTP and still allow them to fully pressurize their distribution system.

It is not controversial. With the funding the city is working to secure, the new pumps will add little if any debt service to the existing charges for water service.

It does not involve a new or relocated discharge to surface or ground water, involve any increase in the volume of discharge or the loading of pollutants from an existing source or new facilities, or provide capacity to serve a design population thirty percent greater than the current design population of the Filtration Plant. Growth in the Basham area is being serviced by unused treatment capacity.

For further information, please contact:

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And Financial Assistance
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