Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.

IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

July 18, 2017

To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

Applicant: City of Coralville  SRF Number: CS1920767 01
County: Johnson  IDNR Project Number: S2014-0388
State: Iowa

The City of Coralville, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their wastewater treatment facility. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority.

The City of Coralville is located in Johnson County and shares the southern and eastern boundaries of its city limits with the City of Iowa City. The population of Coralville according to the 2010 US Census was 18,951. The existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) is a sequencing batch reactor (SBR) facility consisting of preliminary treatment including a bar screen, grit removal, and fine screens before reaching the SBR units. The facility also includes ultraviolet (UV) disinfection and a solids handling process consisting of aerobic digesters, gravity belt thickener and thickened sludge storage.

The proposed project includes expansion of the existing equalization basin and construction of a new headworks building including pumps, grit removal, and screening. In addition, the project includes construction of new aeration basins, new final clarifiers, and replacement of UV
disinfection system at the wastewater treatment facility. Positive environmental effects will be improved treatment of the wastewater from the City of Coralville, compliance with NPDES effluent discharge permit limits, reduced discharge of the pollutants to the Iowa River, and improved water quality.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use or growth and distribution of population. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes. The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value. No Historic Properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project.

The City of Coralville is required to purchase 0.99 credits of forested wetlands from the River Products Wetland Mitigation Bank in Johnson County as a condition of the U.S. Army Corps issued Section 404 permit. The project will not affect Indiana bat habitat given the City of Coralville will only clear trees necessary for construction from October 1 through March 31. The project will be constructed within the 100-year flood plain. The City has issued a flood plain development permit for the project.

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)”c”).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit comments to the
department during this period. Please direct your comments to me at Tiffany.WilsonLillard@dnr.iowa.gov or 515-725-0261.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tiffany Wilson Lillard
Environmental Specialist
502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment
             Project Map

Distribution List (email):
   Dave Schechinger, Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.
   Michael Drummond, Council on Environmental Quality
   Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
   Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Public Health
   Randy Lane, Iowa Department of Public Health
   Leslie Leager, Iowa Economic Development Authority
   Susan Heathcote, Iowa Environmental Council
   Tracy Scebold, Iowa Finance Authority
   Alyson Fleming, Iowa Finance Authority
   Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
   Jane Clark, Sierra Club
   Lindsay Dubin, Environmental Law and Policy Center
   Jim Carroll, USDA Rural Development
   Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
   Tokey Boswell, USDOI, National Park Service, Midwest Region
   Kraig McPeek, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
   Christopher Simmons, USEPA Region VII
   Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII
   The Iowa City Press Citizen
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IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Coralville

SRF Number: CS1920767 01

County: Johnson

IDNR Project Number: S2014-0388

State: Iowa

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Coralville is located in Johnson County and shares the southern and eastern boundaries of its city limits with the City of Iowa City.

Population: The population of Coralville according to the 2010 US Census was 18,951. Projected design population is for the year 2034, or 29,693.

Current Waste Treatment: The existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) is a sequencing batch reactor (SBR) facility consisting of the following items: preliminary treatment consisting of a bar screen, grit removal, and fine screens before reaching the SBR units. The facility also includes ultraviolet (UV) disinfection and a solids handling process consisting of aerobic digesters, gravity belt thickener and thickened sludge storage.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system components to safely operate the City of Coralville’s wastewater treatment system for the next 20 years.
**Proposed Improvements**: The proposed project includes expansion of the existing equalization basin; new headworks building including pumps, grit removal, and screening; new aeration basins; new final clarifiers, and replacement of UV disinfection system at the wastewater treatment facility.

**Receiving Stream**: The treated wastewater from the proposed facility will discharge to the Iowa River. The Iowa River has a stream designation of A1, B(WW1), HH.

Class A1 waters are primary contact recreational use waters in which recreational or other uses may result in prolonged and direct contact with the water, involving considerable risks of ingesting water in quantities sufficient to pose a health hazard. Such activities include, but are not limited to swimming, diving, water skiing, and water contact recreational canoeing.

Waters designated Class B(WW1) are those in which temperature, flow and other habitat characteristics are suitable to maintain warm water game fish populations along with a resident aquatic community that includes a variety of native nongame fish and invertebrate species. These waters generally include border rivers, large interior rivers, and the lower segments of medium-size tributary streams.

Waters designated Class HH are those in which fish are routinely harvested for human consumption or waters both designated as a drinking water supply and in which fish are routinely harvested for human consumption.

**Alternatives Considered**

**Alternatives Considered**: Converting the existing wastewater treatment process to a membrane bio-reactor (MBR) or expanding the current sequencing batch reactor (SBR) process were considered as alternatives that would solve the community’s need to meet current NPDES permit limits and maintain adequate treatment capacity as the population continues to expand.

**Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative**: The No-Action alternative is not viable due to the IDNR Administrative Consent Order to make improvement at the wastewater treatment facility in order to meet NPDES effluent limits. The conversion to a continuous flow through activated sludge process using MLE was deemed the best alternative.

The project site was selected for the availability of land (it is already City-owned) as well as minimization of the impacts to the environment.

**Measures Taken to Assess Impact**

**Public Involvement**: A public hearing was held on July 26, 2016 at 6:30PM at the City’s regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was published in the Cedar
Rapids Gazette on June 23, 2016. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

**Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups:**
The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Water Resources Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- Delaware Tribe of Indians
- Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Omaha Tribal Council
- Osage Tribal Council
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
- Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
- Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
- Santee Sioux Nation
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Spirit Lake Tribal Council
- Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
- Upper Sioux Tribe
- Winnebago Tribal Council
- Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee
- Johnson County Historic Preservation Commission

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No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. The proposed project will disturb soils over an area greater than one acre; therefore, the applicant is required to obtain an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) and abide by its terms. Therefore, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

This project may require the disposal of sewage sludge. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the disposal of any sewage sludge complies with applicable requirements found in 40 CFR Part 503 and 567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 67. Properties that contain regulated materials are located within or very near the proposed project area. If construction activities find an unknown area of contamination, it is the responsibility of the applicant to follow the procedure for notification of hazardous conditions (567 IAC 131.2). Excavated soil that contains a hazardous substance must be assessed and properly disposed of (567 IAC 100.4).

Historical/Archaeological: The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), the Certified Local Government and various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. The DNR has determined, and the SHPO has agreed (R&C #160352124), that this undertaking will result in “no historic properties effected” based on the scope of the project, the prior use of the project area, and the findings of the Phase I Archeological Survey conducted on the project property. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new
archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

**Environmental:** According to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division, the proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division agree that the project will not have a significant impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats since the City of Coralville has agreed to clear trees outside the maternity period (April 1 to September 30) for Indiana bat. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined the project will impact wetlands and requires wetland mitigation compensation as a condition of the city’s Section 404 individual permit. The City of Coralville is required to purchase 0.99 forested wetland bank credits at the River Products Wetland Mitigation Bank #1 prior to constructing the project. In addition, the City of Coralville is required to meet all specified conditions included in the Section 401 Water Quality Certification issued by the Iowa DNR on July 10, 2017.

According to the Iowa DNR Water Resources Section, this project will be constructed within the 100-year floodplain and requires a flood plain development permit from the City of Coralville. The city issued a flood plain development permit for the project on January 17, 2017. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity.

**Land Use and Trends:** The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. The proposed project is within the present corporate limits of Coralville in areas zoned residential, commercial, or industrial. No significant farmlands will be impacted. This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

**Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources:** Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.
**POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT**

Positive environmental effects will be improved treatment of the wastewater from the City of Coralville, compliance with NPDES effluent discharge permit limits, reduced discharge of the pollutants to the receiving stream, and improved water quality in the receiving stream.

**SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will impact existing wetlands. However, the City of Coralville is required to purchase 0.99 credits of forested wetlands from the River Products Wetland Mitigation Bank in Johnson County as a condition of the U.S. Army Corps issued Section 404 permit.
- The project will not affect Indiana bat habitat given the City of Coralville will only clear trees necessary for construction from October 1 through March 31. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- The project will be constructed within the 100-year flood plain. The City has issued a flood plain development permit for the project.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- No Historic Properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)“c”).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
• No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 92.8(1)”b” for wastewater projects relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. No adverse effect or significant environmental impact is foreseen at this time.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tiffany Wilson Lillard
Environmental Review Specialist
State Revolving Fund
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Location information provided by Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.

2014 Aerial Map
Coralville Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade
Coralville, IA

Possible staging areas for equipment & material

Approximate location for construction activity
Site Sketch
Coralville Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade
Coralville, IA