



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

April 25, 2022

Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact

**Village of Danville - Knox County
WWTP Generator and Control Panel Replacement
Loan Number: CS390300-0018**

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a wastewater treatment project in Danville which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency intends to finance through its Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) below-market interest rate revolving loan program. The LER describes the project, its costs, and expected environmental benefits. Making available this LER fulfills Ohio EPA's environmental review and public notice requirements for this loan program.

Ohio EPA analyzes environmental effects of proposed projects as part of its WPCLF program review and approval process. We have concluded that the proposed project should not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. This project's relatively narrow scope and lack of environmental impacts qualifies it for the LER rather than a more comprehensive Environmental Assessment. More information can be obtained by calling or writing the person named at the end of the attached LER.

Upon issuance of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) determination, award of funds may proceed without further environmental review or public comment unless new information shows that environmental conditions of the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Courtright

Kathleen Courtright, Assistant Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

Attachment

LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project Identification

Project: Danville - WWTP Generator and Control Panel Replacement

Applicant: Village of Danville
P.O. Box W
Danville, OH 43014

Loan Number: CS390300-0018

Project Summary

The Village of Danville, in Knox County, has requested financial assistance from the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) to add a new diesel-powered generator to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to ensure effective lagoon operation and minimize the chance for sewer back-ups due to power outages. All work will be on the WWTP site, an area lacking important environmental resources.

History & Existing Conditions

Danville owns and operates a sanitary sewer collection system and a six-cell lagoon WWTP constructed in 1992 that was recently upgraded to provide treatment meeting ammonia limits (Figure 1). Danville has eliminated significant extraneous clear water (infiltration and inflow) in the sewer system that had historically delivered excessive wet-weather flows to the WWTP.

The WWTP has no emergency generator. During power interruptions, operators connect a portable pump to move raw sewage into the treatment process. The pump is too small for typical influent flows and, when in high-priority use at the WWTP, is unavailable for its more efficient use in the sanitary sewer collection system.

Parts for the outdated raw influent pump station control panel are difficult to obtain. Continued reliance on the aged control panel and undersized portable pump would increase the likelihood of sewage backups into homes or overflows into streets and yards.

Project Description

Danville proposes purchasing and installing a diesel-powered permanent standby generator rated at 60 kW, sized to meet the full operational load of the raw influent lift station. The proposed installation includes an automatic transfer switch, operational alarms, and a weatherproof enclosure.

Additionally, the 25-year old control panel on the influent lift station will be replaced.

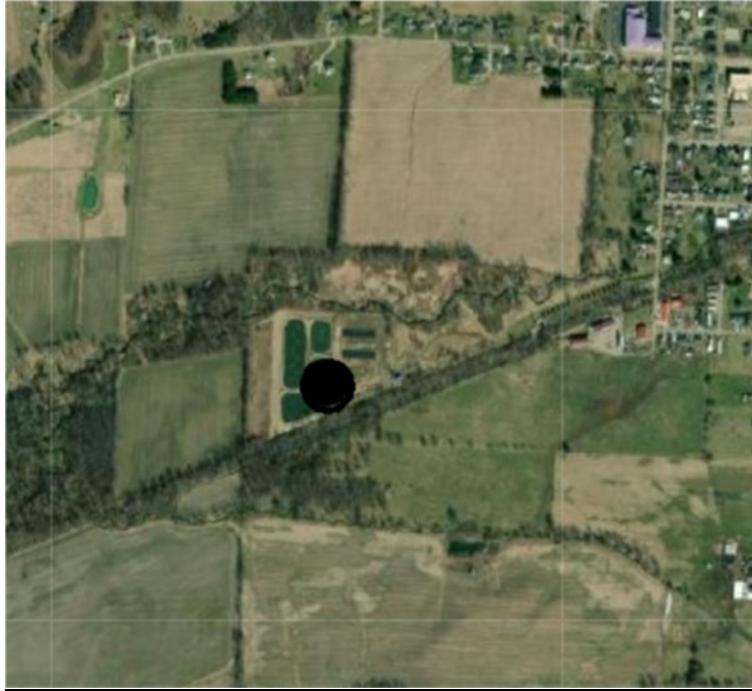


Figure 1 – WWTP Location

Implementation

Danville will borrow approximately \$110,000 from the WPCLF at the 0% Hardship interest rate and will save approximately \$35,000 by using WPCLF financing at this rate for a 20-year loan, compared to the market rate of 2.81%. This project is eligible for up to \$50,000 of the \$500,000 “Principal Forgiveness for Back-up Power” special funding incentive for the procurement and installation of back-up power for wastewater treatment facilities. If Danville receives this special funding, which is available on a first-come, first-served basis, overall loan savings by using WPCLF financing will increase accordingly.

Project debt will be covered by sewer revenues. The typical annual residential sewer bill in Danville is \$660, which is approximately 1.3% of local median household income (MHI; \$49,668) and compares favorably to the Ohio average annual sewer bill (\$749) and 1.3% of state MHI.

Construction will begin promptly after loan award, now expected in mid-2022, and be completed in early 2023.

Public Participation

Village Council has periodically discussed this project as it has developed over two years. Ohio EPA is unaware of opposition to or controversy about the project.

Ohio EPA will make a copy of this document available to the public on its web page (<https://epa.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/epa/divisions-and-offices/environmental-financial-assistance/announcements>) and will provide it on request.

Conclusion

The proposed installation of an emergency generator and control panel replacement constitute a minor upgrading of existing treatment works and meets the other qualifying criteria for a Limited Environmental Review (LER). Specifically, the proposed project:

Will have no significant environmental effect, no effect on high-value environmental resources, and requires no specific impact mitigation because all work will be on the WWTP site, a space lacking important environmental resources, and require only limited ground disturbance.

Is cost-effective and not controversial because there is no feasible alternative to adding emergency backup power; there is no evidence of controversy about or opposition to the project.

Does not create a new, or relocate an existing, discharge to surface or ground waters, will not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharge or the loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters, and will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population because the project merely ensures the WWTP and sanitary collection system will function during power outages and has no other effect on sewage flows or wastewater treatment or treatment capacity.

Contact information

Dan Halterman
Ohio EPA-DEFA
PO Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
daniel.halterman@epa.ohio.gov