



Categorical Exclusion Determination

For the Proposed Project of Cleveland Utilities Authority (Bradley County), Tennessee

Loan No. 2024-10773

August 28, 2026

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (Department) State Revolving Fund Loan Program has conducted a review of the above-referenced project in accordance with the Operating Agreement between the Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for implementing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program. The Department has determined that this project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion (CE). Accordingly, the Department is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the Department's EPA-approved National Environmental Policy Act-like environmental review process.

The project consists of the rehabilitation of approximately 38,000 linear feet of 8-inch through 48-inch diameter sewer lines by method of cured-in-place piping and pipe bursting and associated manholes within the sewer collection system. The total estimated project cost is \$20,000,000. A CWSRF loan in the amount of \$20,000,000 whole dollars has been requested for this project. This project will be funded with a \$17,500,000 CWSRF loan and \$2,500,000 dollars in principal forgiveness that will not have to be repaid by the Cleveland Utilities Authority.

The project is eligible for a CE because undertaking this action:

1. Will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters;
2. Will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or load of pollutants;
3. Will not provide capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population.
4. Will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.
5. Will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resources areas; and
6. Is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

The CE determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Department and can be revoked at any time that adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this CE eligibility determination will be on file with the Department and available for public review upon request.

If you wish to comment or to challenge this CE, email your comment(s) to:

Ms. Felicia D. Freeman, Environmental Manager at felicia.d.freeman@tn.gov
Division of Water Resources, State Revolving Fund Loan Program
Davy Crockett Tower, 9th Floor
500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243
or call (615) 879-0011.