

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Municipal Finance and Construction Element
Bureau of Environmental, Engineering and Permitting
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SHAWN M. LATOURETTE

Commissioner

January 27, 2025

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority
Security Enhancements to the Water Treatment Plant,
Distribution System and Source Areas and Structure
Atlantic City, Atlantic County
Project No. 0102001-013

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

The Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA) is pursuing financial assistance from the New Jersey Water Bank (NJWB) for the design and construction of security enhancements at the Pleasantville Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and Administrative Offices, located in the City of Pleasantville. The WTP system requires security upgrades to ensure employee safety and a reliable supply of potable water for ACMUA customers. The WTP serves approximately 8,000 customers in Atlantic City and has a daily load capacity of 21 million gallons (MG). The upgrades to the WTP include security locks on replacement doors and fencing, internal security cameras with intrusion detection, IT cybersecurity for the water treatment computer system, and amphibious and land security vehicles to maintain property perimeters. The addition of the proposed security upgrades to the WTP would reduce the risk of cyberattacks and intentional contamination of the water system while maintaining structural integrity. There will be little to no environmental or cultural resources impacts as the work areas are limited to previously disturbed areas of the water treatment plant. There will be no increase in water system allocation, capacity, or service area as a result of the proposed project, which will meet all State and Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed the proposed action for potential environmental impacts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:22-10. Based on information submitted in support of the proposed action, the Department has determined that it qualifies for an exemption from the environmental review requirements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:22-10.3(c). The rules provide that an exemption applies to certain categories of actions determined by the Department to have no adverse impact on environmental and cultural resources. All proposed rehabilitation and improvements will take place within the existing facilities on a pre-disturbed site, do not require ground excavation, and will not impact environmentally critical areas, which include, but are not limited to, wetlands, vernal habitats, floodplains, endangered or threatened species and Species of Concern and their designated habitats, Important Farmlands, Agricultural Development Areas, important aquifer recharge areas, stream corridors, tidal areas, steep slopes or parks and preserves. Staging areas, if necessary, will be located temporarily on paved or pre-

disturbed gravel surfaces and will have no adverse impacts on the environment. The cost of this project will be funded with existing user revenues.

Although this project is being deemed as exempt from the environmental planning review requirements, the project sponsor is obligated to follow the environmental design requirements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:22-10.11(f).

Based on review of project documentation, the Department has made a decision to approve the information submitted for the proposed action as supporting the exemption determination. This decision is a part of the financial assistance application process but is not a commitment of federal or state funds.

Proposed

Project Cost: \$4,800,000

Proposed Loan: \$4,800,000

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this determination should be addressed to: Karen Cole, Chief, Bureau of Environmental, Engineering, and Permitting, Municipal Finance and Construction Element, P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-03D, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625-0420.

Sincerely,

Charles Jenkins, Assistant Director

Municipal Finance & Construction Element