

Public Notice  
Village of Coldwater, Ohio  
Sanitary Sewer Lining Project  
Environmental Review Documents for Public Review

The Ohio EPA is considering funding a project through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund which is subject to environmental review requirements. The project consists of rehabilitating the existing sewers by lining them in place. The Ohio EPA is making available for public review a Limited Environmental Review (LER) of potential environmental impacts and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI).

The Village is providing the FNSI and LER at the Village Office, on the Village website ([www.villageofcoldwater.com](http://www.villageofcoldwater.com)) and at the Coldwater Public Library. The documents are also available at Ohio EPA's website (<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/Default.aspx?tabid=2202>).

Comments may be submitted to the project Environmental Planner at Ohio EPA listed at the end of the LER.



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

**John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Scott J. Nally, Director**

July 20, 2012

**Notice of Issuance of a Limited Environmental Review and Final  
Finding of No Significant Impact to All Interested Citizens,  
Organizations and Government Agencies**

**Village of Coldwater  
Sanitary Sewer Lining Project  
CS390271-001**

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that Ohio EPA has reviewed the referenced project and finds that neither an Environmental Assessment (EA) nor a Supplemental Study (SS) is required to complete the environmental review of the project. Instead, this project meets the criteria for a Limited Environmental Review (LER). These criteria are summarized below in this document and in the attached LER.

The proposed project consists of rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewers to reduce infiltration and inflow. The project will reduce infiltration and inflow to the Village's wastewater collection system which will reduce sanitary sewer overflows and basement backups, helping to alleviate a public health threat from direct contact with sewage. The project will also reduce treatment costs and benefit surface water resources by reducing impacts from discharge of untreated flow.

The LER was completed for this project as it will not individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local, or private actions have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment. Consequently, a Finding of No Significant Impact can be issued now for this project.

The Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) 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 facilities planning process. A subsequent review by this Agency has found that the proposed action does not require the preparation of an EA or an SS.

Our environmental review concluded that because the proposed project is limited in scope and meets all applicable criteria, a Limited Environmental Review is warranted. Specifically, the project constitutes an action in a sewered community which is for minor upgrading of existing sewers. Furthermore, the proposed project:

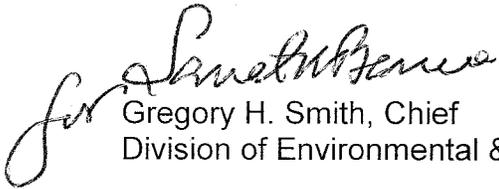
- \* has no significant environmental effect;

- \* does not require extensive specific impact mitigation;
- \* has no effect on high value environmental resources;
- \* is cost effective;
- \* is not a controversial action;
- \* 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.

A map depicting the location of the project is included as part of the LER. The LER presents information on the proposed project, its 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 awards may proceed unless information is provided which determines that environmental conditions for the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,



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

Attachment

## LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

### **A. Project Identification**

**Name:** Village of Coldwater  
Sanitary Sewer Lining Project

**Address:** Joe Knapschaefer, Mayor  
P.O. Box 118  
610 West Sycamore Street,  
Coldwater, Ohio 45828

**WPCLF Project Number:** CS390271-0001

### **B. Project Summary**

The Village of Coldwater has applied to the Ohio EPA, Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance for funding of this project through Ohio's Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF). The funding is for a sanitary sewer lining and rehabilitation project. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$1,699,881. The main purpose of the sewer work will be to reduce infiltration and inflow<sup>1</sup> (I/I) in old deteriorating sewers to eliminate wet-weather sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) in the collection system. A project location map is attached to this document.

The proposed project will reduce wet-weather flow in the collection system. This will benefit the Village by alleviating sewer backups, helping to eliminate a public health risk from contact with untreated sewage, reducing impacts to surface water quality from SSOs and decreasing treatment costs. No significant adverse environmental impacts are expected as a result of project implementation.

### **C. Existing Need**

The Village of Coldwater owns and operates a separate sanitary sewer collection system and wastewater treatment facility serving a population of approximately 4,427. The sanitary sewer flow is treated at the Coldwater wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in the northeastern part of the Village. The lagoon type WWTP, which has a design capacity of 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD), discharges into Hardin Creek and Coldwater Creek, which are not in attainment of their designated aquatic life use. Coldwater Creek flows into Grand Lake St. Marys about two miles to the northeast.

The sanitary sewers are mainly vitrified clay pipe as much as 70 years old. Through the years, they have become riddled with root intrusion problems and cracks, and pipe sections have become misaligned. The Village completed televising the entire sanitary

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<sup>1</sup> Infiltration/inflow (I/I) is water that enters a sewer system through cracks in the pipe, open joints, and other underground sources (infiltration); or through manholes, storm sewer cross connections, and other direct connections (foundation drains, downspouts, etc.) to the sanitary sewer (inflow).

sewer collection system in 2007 and has been implementing projects to address I/I in the areas most in need of rehabilitation. There are five remaining SSO points in the collection system.

#### **D. Project Description**

Constructing a large storage basin for wet-weather flows in the central part of the collection system was not a feasible alternative because suitable land is not available. The alternatives of replacing the sewers and constructing additional mainline trunk sewers to eliminate overflows were also not economically cost-effective due to the high cost of installation, repairing paved streets and alleys, and avoiding the other existing utilities. The most practical and cost-effective alternative was determined to be rehabilitation of the existing separate sanitary sewers, mainly by lining the inside of the existing pipe. The proposed project will rehabilitate 42,000 feet of 8-inch, 10-inch and 12-inch diameter gravity sanitary sewer. Most problem sections of sewer have already been addressed so excavation for replacement of sewer pipe should be minimal.

The area in which the sanitary sewers are to be rehabilitated by this project encompasses most of the Village and extends about 4,500 feet East-West by 2,500 feet North-South. The sewers run mainly in alley and street rights-of-way, with some in easements along property lines. There should be very little excavation, so the Village does not expect to remove any trees during this project. If replacement of the existing sewer is necessary, any disturbed pavement, sidewalks and landscaping will be restored. No stream crossings or paralleling of stream corridors will be necessary.

#### **E. Estimated Project Costs**

The total cost of the sanitary sewer replacement project is \$1,699,881. It is expected to be funded by a WPCLF 20-year loan of \$1,199,881 at 1.0% for 20 years, and an Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant of \$500,000. By funding the project with a below market-rate WPCLF loan, the Village will save approximately \$332,000 in interest costs over the 20-year life of the loan when compared to the market rate of 4.32%. The Village does not anticipate a need to raise sewer use charges as a result of the project. Based on information provided with the loan application, the current average monthly residential sewer use is \$25 per month (\$300 per year), including the \$2 per 1,000 gallons surcharge. This represents 0.7% of the Village's median household income of \$43,382.

#### **F. Project Schedule**

The Village expects award of the funds at the July 26, 2012 OWDA Board meeting. The Village opened bids in June 2012. Construction could begin in August 2012. Project completion is planned for mid- 2013.

### **G. Public Notification**

There have been presentations and discussions concerning the proposed project in semi-monthly Village Council meetings, which are open to the public. Meeting minutes are available at the Village office. The project is a requirement of the NPDES permit for the WWTP, which became effective in February 2008. A notice for a 30-day comment period was published prior to the effective date of the permit.

A public meeting for the current project was held on April 16, 2012. Notification of the meeting was sent to every resident and property owner. It was also advertised in the Celina Daily Standard newspaper on April 4, 2012. Five residents attended. The public information and participation opportunities offered as part of the proposed project are considered sufficient. Ohio EPA is not aware of any significant opposition to the project.

The Village will publish in the newspaper, post in the library and place on its website, a notice of the availability of this Limited Environmental Review (LER) decision and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for comment. Ohio EPA will also make the LER and FNSI available at <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/Default.aspx?tabid=2202>. Documentation supporting the LER is available from the project contact named at the end of this LER.

### **H. Planning Information**

No review of the project by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office was necessary, based on a determination by Ohio EPA of “no historic properties affected”, because the proposed project is for replacement of existing equipment and any area of potential effect would be restricted to previously-disturbed areas in existing easements. No review by Ohio Department of Natural Resources was necessary for the same reason. No consistency review for Clean Water Act Section 208 water quality planning was necessary, because no change in treatment processes, capacity, or service area will result from the project. Since the project will not make any major changes in existing infrastructure, no review by the county planning department was warranted either.

### **J. Conclusion**

The proposed sanitary sewer project consists of lining and rehabilitation of the existing sewers to remove I/I from sewer flow. The project qualifies generally for a Limited Environmental Review (as an upgrading/replacement of the existing collection system), and also meets the following additional criteria for a LER:

*Proposed repairs to the existing sanitary sewers will have no significant environmental effect, no effect on high value environmental resources, and therefore does not require extensive specific impact mitigation.*

The sanitary sewer repairs will occur in road right-of-way and previously-disturbed existing easements. Rehabilitation of the sewers will be accomplished mainly by

lining in place. Therefore, no removal of trees should be necessary. There will be no work in or paralleling any stream for the project, and no endangered species or special natural features are present due to the developed nature of the project area.

The only significant impacts due to the project would be short-term. Basic construction best management practices will be included in the project plans and contract specifications to minimize impacts such as dust, equipment noise, odors, and the disruption of local traffic. Measures for temporary and final stabilization of disturbed areas will also be implemented. Any excess excavated soil will be disposed in a manner to prevent impact to surface waters, floodplains, or wetlands.

*Rehabilitation of the proposed sanitary sewer is cost-effective.*

The project will remove substantial amounts of infiltration and inflow from the sanitary sewer, so wet-weather flow to the WWTP will be reduced, without incurring the much higher costs associated with sewer replacement or new sewer installation. This project will decrease the treatment costs and allow the plant to better meet future permit limits.

*The proposed sanitary sewer is not a controversial action.*

Customers of the system have been informed of the proposed project and have had the opportunity to provide input during its development. In addition, the project is expected to be funded by a below-market rate WPCLF loan and an OPWC grant, helping to keep costs down. Ohio EPA is unaware of significant opposition to or controversy about the project.

*The sanitary sewer will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population, will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters, and 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.*

The purpose of the proposed project is to remove I/I from the sanitary sewers, which, in turn, will reduce the flow to the WWTP. However, the proposed repairs will not increase overall sanitary sewer system capacity. Demand for treatment capacity should not increase, either, because the area drained by the existing sanitary sewer is fully developed and predominantly residential, nor will the project result in extension of sewers into areas unserved by sanitary sewers or installation of any new service lines. There will be no new discharge points created or existing discharges relocated as a result of this project. For these reasons, the proposed project will not result in any increase in sanitary sewer flows or pollutant loads.

The proposed project meets all applicable criteria to allow an LER. The planning activities for the project have not identified any potentially-significant short-term or long-term adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment or on sensitive resources. Because work on the existing sewer would be limited to road rights-of-way and easements, and because basic construction mitigation measures and practices, such as erosion prevention and

sediment controls will be implemented if needed, no significant negative impact to the local environment is expected. The proposed sewer rehabilitation project will reduce the volume of wet-weather flows requiring treatment and alleviate the threat to human health from exposure to sewage. It will also reduce the potential for adverse impacts to surface water from sanitary sewer overflows.

**For further information, please contact:**

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