

1400 Coliseum Blvd. 36110-2400 • Post Office Box 301463  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463  
(334) 271-7700 • FAX (334) 271-7950

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FROM ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The Utilities Board of the City of Daphne  
Baldwin County

SRF Project No. CS010231-06

July 8, 2020

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has made \$4,800,000 in financial assistance available to The Utilities Board of the City of Daphne using funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program. In accordance with State and Federal regulations that govern the program, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has conducted a review to assess the potential impacts upon the environment that may result from implementation of this project.

The Utilities Board of the City of Daphne proposes a project that will improve infrastructure and operations at the Daphne Utilities Water Reclamation Facility. Proposed improvements include replacement of manual bar screen, UV disinfection upgrades, new filtration equipment, vortex grit system, and a collection system rehab. This will help rehab of aging infrastructure in the sanitary sewer collection system and assist with I & I reduction.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion (CE) from further environmental study under the guidelines specified by the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) which specifically include actions which are solely directed toward minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, functional replacement of equipment, or towards the construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities. However, this decision may be reconsidered if significant adverse information concerning the potential environmental impacts of the project is discovered.

Comments relative to this project should be submitted in writing to Juliette Cox, SRF Section, Permits & Services Division, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, P.O. Box 301463, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463, no later than 30 days after the date of this CE. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will not take formal action to proceed with the project without carefully evaluating any public comments opposing the project.

Lance R. LeFleur  
Director

LRL/EJR/JMC  
Attachment



The Utilities Board of the City of Daphne  
SRF# CS010231-06

The Categorical Exclusion is promulgated in the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) in Part IV, Section B: Categorical Exclusions for Clean Water State Revolving Fund Projects: (Italicized sections apply.)

1. The following clean water projects are eligible for categorical exclusions.
  - a. *Actions which are solely directed toward minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, functional replacement of equipment, or towards the construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities;*
  - b. *Actions which do not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing facility including, but not limited to, infiltration and inflow corrections, replacement of existing mechanical equipment or structures, and the construction of small structures on existing sites;*
  - c. Actions which are for minor upgrading and minor expansion of existing treatment works in sewerred communities with a population less than 10,000;
  - d. Actions where on-site technologies are proposed in unsewered communities of less than 10,000;
  - e. Construction of new wastewater collection systems for existing communities, only if ancillary or appurtenant to existing facilities;
  - f. Projects where funding is being provided for planning and/or engineering costs only (in which case the requirements of IV.B.1 a-f do no apply)
2. In order to determine if a clean water project is eligible for a CE, all of the following conditions must not apply:
  - a. The action is known or expected to have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other federal, State, local, tribal or private actions.
  - b. The action is known or expected to adversely impact:
    - 1) Cultural resources areas such as archaeological and historical sites,
    - 2) Endangered or threatened species and their critical habitats,
    - 3) Environmentally important natural resources areas such as floodplains, wetlands, important farmlands, or aquifer recharging zones.
  - c. This action is known or expected not to be cost-effective or to cause significant public controversy.
  - d. The facilities to be provided will
    - 1) Create a new, or
    - 2) Significantly relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters.
  - e. The facilities will result in more than 30% increases in the volume of discharge or the loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters.
  - f. The facilities would provide capacity to serve a population 30% higher than the anticipated design population.



# Daphne WRF Projects: Replacement of Manual Bar Screen UV Disinfection Upgrades New Filtration Equipment Vortex Grit System

Daphne WRF  
30.651579 N  
87.909521 W

### Legend

- Gravity Main
- Force Main
- ⊗ Manholes
- PS Pump Station



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 2288  
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

June 22, 2020

South Alabama Branch  
Regulatory Division

SUBJECT: Department of the Army Jurisdictional Determination, File Number SAM-2020-00368-ELB, City of Daphne, Replacement of Filtration Equipment at Daphne Water Reclamation Facility, Baldwin County, Alabama

Utilities Board of the City of Daphne  
Attention: Scott Polk, General Manager  
Email Address: [scott@daphneutilities.com](mailto:scott@daphneutilities.com)  
900 Daphne Avenue  
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Dear Mr. Polk,

Reference is made to a request sent on your behalf for a jurisdictional determination for a project to replace aging infrastructure and add new infrastructure at the Daphne Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). This project is located at 29280 North Main Street, at Latitude 30.651479° North, Longitude 87.909521° West; in Baldwin County, Daphne, Alabama.

A desktop evaluation by this office revealed that a Department of the Army permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, will not be required for the proposed manual bar screen replacement, UV disinfection upgrades, new filtration equipment, and vortex grit system at the Daphne WRF. We have determined that this proposed work, as described in the submitted letter (attached), is a non-regulated activity with regard to Department of the Army regulations, and necessitates no further review.

The statements contained herein do not convey any property rights or any exclusive privileges, and do not authorize any injury to property or obviate the requirements to obtain other local, state, or federal authorizations required by law for the activities discussed above. If the scope of work of your project changes, you are urged to contact this office for a verification of this determination. Thank you for your cooperation with our permit program.

You are receiving an electronic copy only of this letter. If you wish to receive a paper copy, you should send a written request to this office at the following address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile,

Attention: Ms. Melinda Immel, at [Melinda.immel@volkert.com](mailto:Melinda.immel@volkert.com).

You may contact me by e-mail at [emma.l.bickerstaff@usace.army.mil](mailto:emma.l.bickerstaff@usace.army.mil) or at (251) 690-3295, should you have any questions. Please visit our web site at [www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx) for additional information about our Regulatory Program. Also, please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey located near the bottom of the webpage. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

Sincerely,

Emma L. Bickerstaff  
Project Manager  
South Alabama Branch  
Regulatory Division

Attachment

Volkert, Inc.  
1110 Montlimar Dr., Suite 560  
Mobile, AL 36609  
(251) 342-1070  
www.volkert.com



April 6, 2020

**2020 CWSRF Loan Application**  
(Contract No. 408219, Task No. 7)

Mr. Bill Pearson  
Daphne ES Field Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1208-B Main Street  
Daphne, AL 36526

**RE: 2020 CWSRF Loan Application Intergovernmental Review**

Dear Mr. Pearson:

The Utilities Board of the City of Daphne, Alabama (Daphne Utilities) is proposing to submit a 2020 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Application. We are forwarding the project descriptions and quad maps prepared for this application for an intergovernmental review on behalf of Daphne Utilities. Four projects included in this application involve work at the Daphne Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). This work is currently proposed to be completed within the boundaries of the existing fence. One of the projects included in this application involves the rehabilitation and/or upgrades of aging infrastructure within the sanitary sewer collection system. This proposed work will either be completed from within the pipe and manhole or lift station structures, or within the existing roadway or easement.

In accordance with the application, we are requesting that a response from your agency be provided in writing including any comments and concurrence with the proposed loan. Please direct your response to Daphne Utilities, c/o Mrs. Melinda D. Immel, P.E., Volkert, Inc., 28588 U.S. 98, Suite 9, Daphne, AL 36526, or by email at [melinda.immel@volkert.com](mailto:melinda.immel@volkert.com).

Please call either Marcus Stacey or me at (251) 342-1070 should you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Melinda D. Immel, P.E.  
Assistant Vice President

MS

Enclosures

c Mr. Scott Polk – Daphne Utilities



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1208-B Main Street – Daphne, Alabama 36526  
Phone: 251-441-5181 Fax: 251-441-6222

No endangered or threatened species or critical habitat are known to occur in the project area. As described, the project will have no significant impact on fish and wildlife resources. IF PROJECT DESIGN CHANGES ARE MADE, PLEASE SUBMIT NEW PLANS FOR REVIEW.

William J. Pearson, Field Supervisor

Date

# 2



# ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street  
P.O. Box 300900  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900  
334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477

Lisa D. Jones  
Executive Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer

April 21, 2020

Melinda Immel  
Volkert  
28588 US 98 Suite 9  
Daphne, AL 36526

Re: AHC 20-0701  
Various WRF & Sanitary Sewer System Improvements  
Baldwin County

Dear Ms. Immel:

Upon review of the above referenced project, we have determined that project activities will have no effect on cultural resources eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, we concur with the proposed project activities.

Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office does not constitute consultation with Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, other Native American tribes, local governments, or the public. If archaeological materials are encountered during construction, the procedures codified at 36 CFR 800.13(b) will apply. Archaeological materials consist of any items, fifty years old or older, which were made or used by man. These items include but are not limited to, stone projectile points (arrowheads), ceramic sherds, bricks, worked wood, bone and stone, metal, and glass objects. The federal agency or the applicant receiving federal assistance should contact our office immediately. If human remains are encountered, the provisions of the Alabama Burial Act (*Code of Alabama* 1975, §13A-7-23.1, as amended; Alabama Historical Commission Administrative Code Chapter 460-X-10 Burials) should be followed. This stipulation shall be placed on the construction plans to insure contractors are aware of it.

We appreciate your commitment to helping us preserve Alabama's historic archaeological and architectural resources. Should you have any questions, please contact Eric Sipes at 334.230.2667 or [Eric.Sipes@ahc.alabama.gov](mailto:Eric.Sipes@ahc.alabama.gov). Have the AHC tracking number referenced above available and include it with any future correspondence.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/EDS/law



## South Alabama Regional Planning Commission

William S. Stimpson, Chairman • Charles H. Murphy, Vice-Chairman  
James R. Staff, Secretary - Treasurer • John F. Rhodes, Executive Director

---

May 20, 2020

Daphne Utilities  
c/o Mrs. Melinda D. Immel, PE  
VOLKERT, INC.  
28588 US 98, Suite 9  
Daphne, AL 36526

RE: 2020 CWSRF Loan Application  
Intergovernmental Review  
Utilities Board of the City of Daphne, AL  
Internal SARPC Project Review Control No. 20-03

Dear Mrs. Immel:

In response to the request for a review of this project, attached please find the completed review sheet. This review sheet need not be included in the project application packet (i.e., the Standard Form 424 with supporting documentation).

If you have any questions in this regard or require additional information, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

John F. Rhodes  
Executive Director

/gwc

Enclosure



**SOUTH ALABAMA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**PROJECT REVIEW SHEET**

**INTERNAL SARPC PROJECT CONTROL NO.: 20-03**

**REQUESTING AGENCY:** Dauphin Island Water and Sewer Authority

**PROJECT:** 2020 CWSRF Loan Application  
Intergovernmental Review  
Utilities Board of the City of Daphne, AL

Internal SARPC Project Review Control No. 20-03

**COMMENTS:** (Check one)

- Does Not Apply \_\_\_\_\_
- Concur   X
- No Objection \_\_\_\_\_
- Concur Contingent Upon (Explain Below) \_\_\_\_\_
- Need More Information (Explain Below) \_\_\_\_\_
- Cannot Concur (Explain Below) \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPLANATION:**

**REVIEWER SIGNATURE:** John F. Rhodes/gwr

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 1665  
Mobile, AL 36633