

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

West Lawrence Water Authority
Lawrence County, Alabama

SRF Project No. FS010175-02

May 07, 2024

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has made **\$1,000,000** financial assistance available to the **West Lawrence Water Authority** using funds from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) 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 West Lawrence Water Authority proposes a project to provide improved reliability within the distribution system. The proposed project will consist of rehabilitation of Four (4) water storage tanks in the distribution system. Completion of this proposed project will help maintain the viability of the water storage tanks and protect water quality.

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 toward 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 Mrs. Chavon R. Jones, 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 public notice. 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/CRJ/kbh
Attachment



West Lawrence Water Authority
SRF# FS010175-01

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

1. The following drinking water projects are eligible for categorical exclusions:

a. *Actions intended solely for minor rehabilitation, functional replacement, or ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities.*

b. Minor construction, including:

(1) New wells or replacement wells for water supply purposes if ancillary to the existing system;

(2) Improvements not intended to increase capacity of the system;

(3) Facilities for the disinfection of public water supplies;

(4) Facilities such as looping that will result solely in the provision of adequate public water system pressure;

(5) Construction of water tanks;

(6) Construction of new water lines in previously disturbed areas within one mile of the existing distribution system.

c. Projects where funding is being provided for planning and/or engineering costs only (in which case the requirements of IV.C.1.a-d do not apply).

2. In order to determine if a drinking water project is eligible for a CE, all of the following must not apply:

a. The action is known or expected to directly or indirectly adversely impact any of the following:

(1) Cultural or historical resources;

(2) Endangered or Threatened Species and/or their critical habitats;

(3) Environmentally important natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, prime agricultural land, or aquifer recharge zones.

b. The action is not cost effective.

c. The action will cause significant public controversy.

d. The action will create a new or expanded surface drinking water source.

This project complies with the above requirements and has been determined to be eligible for a Categorical Exclusion.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NASHVILLE DISTRICT
WESTERN REGULATORY FIELD OFFICE
2424 DANVILLE ROAD SW
SUITE N
DECATUR AL 35603

August 10, 2023

SUBJECT: File No. LRN-2020-00904; West Lawrence Water Authority, DWSRF Project #FS010175-01, Tennessee River Mile 272, Left Bank, Franklin and Lawrence County, Alabama.

Bartley W. Taft, P.E.
The Kelley Group
850 Corporate Pkwy, Suite 104
Birmingham, AL 35242

Dear Mr. Taft:

This is in response to your August 1, 2023, request for our comments regarding the subject project.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has regulatory responsibilities pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Under Section 10, the USACE regulates all work in, or affecting, navigable waters of the U.S. Under Section 404, the USACE regulates the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. (33 CFR Part 328).

A review of the information provided indicates the subject activity would not involve work in wetlands/waters of the U.S.; therefore, a Department of the Army permit would not be required.

We understand the project proposal may not have specific design plans at this time, and this inquiry is an initial review to obtain grant funds. We have no objections to the applicant receiving grant funds for the proposal.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact me at the above address or telephone (256) 350-5620. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Sinclair".

William E Sinclair
Project Manager
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Lisa D. Jones
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

468 South Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900

Tel: 334-242-3184
Fax: 334-242-1083

August 1, 2023

Bart Taft
P.O. Box 45
Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Re: AHC 23-1126
West Lawrence Water Authority-Water Storage Tank Refurbishment
Lawrence County

Dear Mr. Taft:

Upon review of the above referenced project, we concur 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 determination of no effect to historic properties.

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 ensure 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. Have the AHC tracking number referenced above available and include it with any future correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Anne Wofford".

Lee Anne Wofford
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/EDS/law

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AUG 11 2023
BY: My/Doc

2023-0113117

SL

August 8, 2023

Alabama Ecological Services Field Office
1208 Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526
VIA EMAIL alabama@fws.gov

In Reply Refer to: Project Code: 2023-0113117
Project Name: Water Storage Tank Painting
West Lawrence Water Authority
DWSRF Project #FS010175-01

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'Water Storage Tank Painting (KG #19-0053)'

To whom it may concern:

On August 7, 2023, I requested an official species list for the above referenced project. Based on the answers and the assistance of the Service's Indiana Bat Dkey, the following affect determination was made:

| Species | Listing Status | Determination |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Indiana Bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>) | Endangered | May affect |

The Consistency letter (attached for reference) does not address all species in the official species list. Therefore, we are seeking additional consultation from your office. The West Lawrence Water Authority (WLWA) seeks to refurbish four water storage tanks. All the work will occur within existing right-of-way and WLWA property holdings. Maps of the proposed improvements are attached to aid you in your review.

We respectfully request a project-specific review to obtain concurrence for the West Lawrence Water Authority Water Storage Tank Painting project.

Respectfully submitted,

Bart Taft

Bartley W. Taft, P.E.

Attachments



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1208-B – 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

William J. Pearson, Field Supervisor
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office

AUG 22 2023

Date

2

January 22, 2024

The Kelley Group
ATTN: Bart Taft
850 Corporate Parkway, Suite 104
Birmingham, AL 35242

RE: Letter of Concurrence
West Lawrence Water Authority – Water Storage Tank Refurbishment
DWSRF Project #FS010175-01
Franklin and Lawrence Counties, Alabama

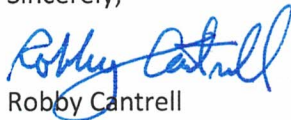
Dear Mr. Taft,

The North Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments (NARCOG) has reviewed the information and maps supplied for the proposed project referenced above located in Franklin and Lawrence Counties, Alabama, and we offer our concurrence for this project. NARCOG understands that the proposed project will address needed improvements to the West Lawrence Water Authority's water collection system by completing the following:

- Refurbishing four (4) water storage tanks

All work will occur in West Lawrence Water Authority's right-of-way and property holdings. In conclusion, NARCOG finds the proposed project to be consistent and compatible with local, state, and regional plans. Should you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at (256) 355-4515.

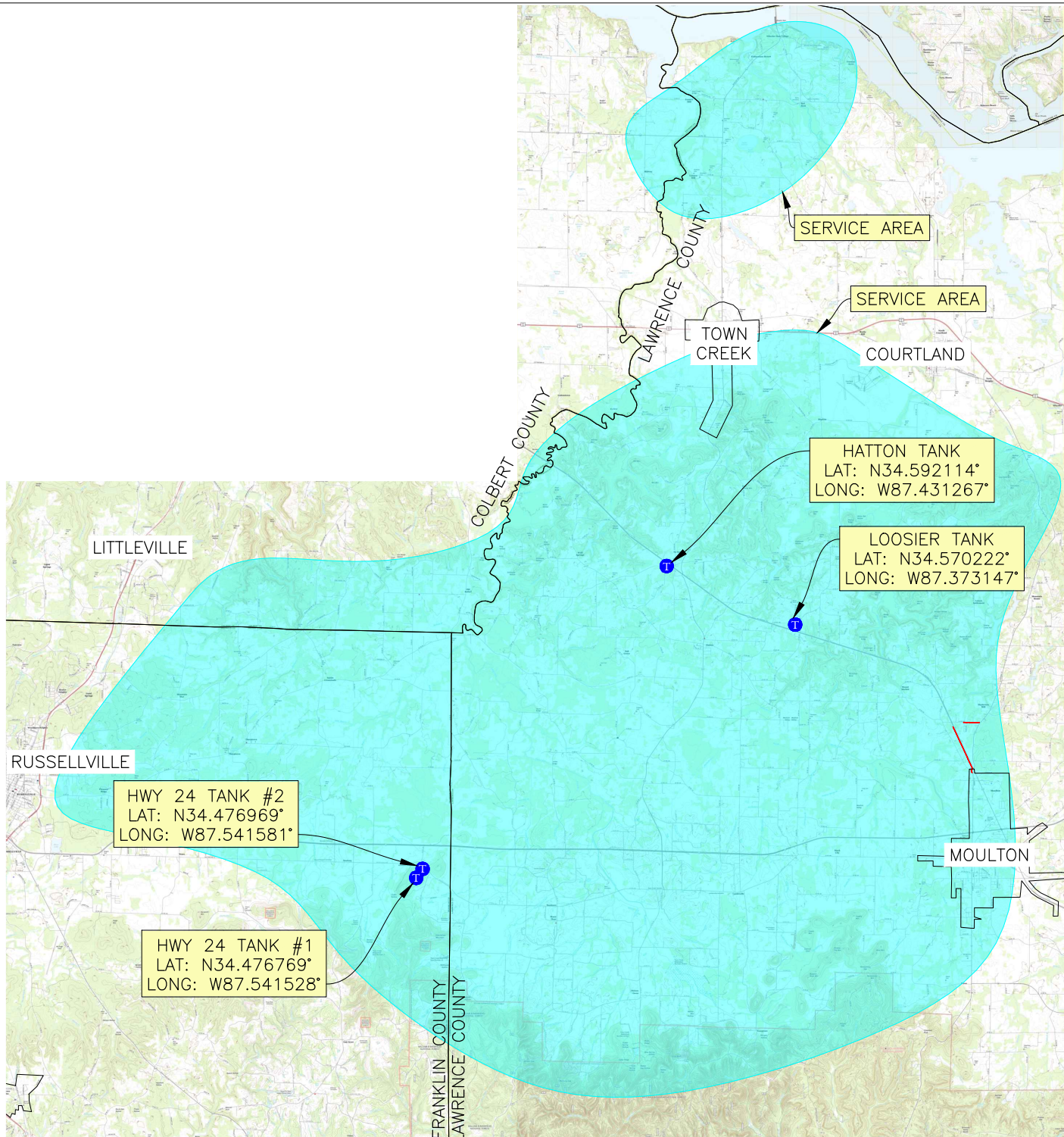
Sincerely,



Robby Cantrell
Executive Director

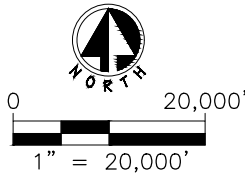
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LEGEND

 TANK



USGS QUAD MAPS FOR MOULTON & MASTERSON MILL, LAWRENCE COUNTY, ALABAMA, 7.5 MINUTE SERIES, REVISED 2018. SCALED AT 1:24,000


THE KELLEY GROUP
 ■ A CIVIL ENGINEERING COMPANY ■
 850 Corporate Pkwy, Suite 104 301 N Dickson St.
 Birmingham, AL 35242 Tuscumbia, AL 35674

USGS QUAD MAP

**WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
WEST LAWRENCE WATER CO-OP
ALABAMA**

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| PROJECT NUMBER 190053 | DATE 07/2023 | SHEET NUMBER 1 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|