



Alabama Department of Environmental Management
adem.alabama.gov

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Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463
(334) 271-7700 ■ FAX (334) 271-7950

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Tuscumbia Utilities
Colbert County, Alabama

SRF Project No. CS010863-01

July 22, 2025

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has made **\$5,700,000** in financial assistance available to **Tuscumbia Utilities** using funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (**CWSRF**). 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.

Tuscumbia Utilities has proposed refurbishing the wastewater treatment plant. The project consists of abandoning and demolition of the existing primary clarifier, recirculation pump station, and trickling filter; replacement of the existing secondary clarifier; construction of three sequencing batch reactor (SBR); installation of a fixed-grid, fine-bubble diffused aeration system within each SBR basin along with the necessary floating mixer and decanting system; construction of a post-equalization basin; construction of a blower facility.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and consequently is herewith issuing a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to support the use of CWSRF funds for the construction of the proposed project. However, this decision may be reconsidered if significant adverse information concerning the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project is discovered. Attached is an Environmental Assessment that details the proposed project and its impact upon the environment.

Comments relative to this project should be submitted in writing to Mrs. Amy Graham, 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 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.

Sincerely,

Jeffery W. Kitchens
Acting Director

JWK/MDM/AEG/kbh
Attachment



Birmingham Office
110 Vulcan Road
Birmingham, AL 35209-4702
(205) 942-6168
(205) 941-1603 (FAX)

Decatur Office
2715 Sandlin Road, S.W.
Decatur, AL 35603-1333
(256) 353-1713
(256) 340-9359 (FAX)

Coastal Office
1615 South Broad Street
Mobile, AL 36605
(251) 450-3400
(251) 479-2593 (FAX)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Tuscumbia Utilities
Colbert County, Alabama

SRF Project No. CS010863-01

A. Proposed Facilities and Actions

Tuscumbia Utilities has proposed to refurbish the wastewater treatment plant. The project consists of abandoning and demolition of the existing primary clarifier, recirculation pump station, and trickling filter; replacement of the existing secondary clarifier; construction of three sequencing batch reactor (SBR); installation of a fixed-grid, fine-bubble diffused aeration system within each SBR basin along with the necessary floating mixer and decanting system; construction of a post-equalization basin; construction of a blower facility.

B. Existing Environment

The proposed project will take place at the Tuscumbia Utilities Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which is located at 809 West 2nd Street, Tuscumbia, Colbert County, Alabama.

C. Existing Wastewater Facilities

The existing WWTP includes the following processes:

- Influent screw pump station
- Coarse screening
- Aerated grit and grease removal
- Raw sewage (de-gritted influent) pump station
- Primary clarification
- Recirculation pump station
- Single-stage trickling filter
- Secondary clarification
- Chlorine disinfection
- Final effluent pump station
- Sludge digester
- Sludge drying beds

Treated effluent is discharged to the Tennessee River. The current population served and to be served by proposed improvements is 9,169 (per the 2023 US Census). There are no industrial customers that discharge wastewater to be treated by the Tuscumbia WWTP. All individual processes within the WWTP are in poor to fair condition. Although the equipment remains in working condition, many of the existing structures and equipment will need to be replaced or upgraded to maintain and improve WWTP performance and extend the useful life of the plant.

D. Need for Proposed Facilities

Although the existing WWTP has been able to maintain compliance with its permit requirements, aging equipment challenges the ability to achieve continued compliance in the future. All individual processes within the WWTP are, at a minimum, 35 years old with some processes greater than 60 years old. The proposed improvements will allow Tuscumbia Utilities to enhance its current treatment abilities as well as to provide reliable and efficient treatment of the wastewater to maintain a clean, treated effluent discharge, thus preserving and protecting public health. Tuscumbia Utilities is currently adhering to all permits and is not under administrative or consent orders to which the Utility Board is a party.

E. Proposed Facilities

Tuscumbia Utilities has proposed a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) treatment facility to replace the existing trickling filter process for the WWTP. The proposed project would include the following:

- Abandoning and demolition of the existing primary clarifier, recirculation pump station, and trickling filter. Additionally, the existing secondary clarifier will be replaced as the limited depth of the existing tank is not suitable for reliably settling activated sludge flow.
- Construction of three SBR basins to receive screened and de-gritted flow from the influent pump station. Actuated valves will be used to divert flow to the appropriate basin and will be controlled by the main SBR control panel/system. Each basin will include a dedicated WAS pump to pump waste sludge to the sludge holding tank. As with the conventional activated sludge configuration, the SBR process will be designed to achieve a minimum design SRT of 7 days to ensure complete nitrification. A fixed-grid, fine-bubble diffused aeration system will be installed within each SBR basin along with the necessary floating mixer and decanting system.
- A post-equalization basin will be constructed adjacent to the SBR basins to receive secondary effluent from the decanter in each SBR basin. This basin will be covered to reduce the potential for algae growth. A modulating effluent valve will control secondary effluent from the post-equalization basin to the downstream processes.
- Construction of a blower facility to provide the necessary process air to the SBR basins. Five positive displacement blowers (4 duty + 1 standby) are proposed due to the potential for large flow variation and to allow staff to provide air efficiently (i.e. smaller units will allow staff to achieve greater turndown to match all operating conditions). Due to the depth variation associated with SBR processes, only positive displacement blowers are suitable for aeration and no other technologies will be considered.
- Additional improvements to the Tuscumbia WWTP to be included as part of this project include various site civil and yard piping improvements, construction of a new administration and operations building, development of a SCADA system for purposes of monitoring the various unit processes, and various site electrical improvements, including installation of a new standby generator.

F. Alternatives Analysis

Alternate 1: Rehabilitate Existing Processes, Maintain Trickling Filter

The WWTP would continue the use of an attached growth (trickling filter) process to provide secondary treatment. An additional trickling filter treatment train would be proposed to provide redundancy, additional treatment capacity, and allow for complete rehabilitation to the existing primary clarifier, trickling filter, and secondary clarifier units. This rehabilitation would occur following the construction of the additional treatment units.

Alternate 2: New Secondary Treatment, Conventional Activated Sludge Configuration

An activated sludge treatment process would be constructed to replace the existing trickling filter system. This alternative consists of a conventional activated sludge process configuration as opposed to an extended aeration configuration to minimize overall footprint and thereby construction costs of the improvements. Two aeration basins would be proposed followed by two secondary clarifiers. No primary clarification will be provided for this alternative, and the existing secondary clarifier would be demolished due to the shallow sidewater depth of the existing unit.

Alternate 3: New Secondary Treatment, SBR Configuration

Like Alternative 2, this alternative would consist of utilizing an activated sludge treatment process in lieu of the existing trickling filter system. However, instead of a conventional activated sludge process configuration, a sequencing batch reactor (SBR) configuration would be proposed. A three-basin system would be constructed to receive screened and de-gritted wastewater, followed by a post-equalization basin to limit the peak flow rate of the secondary effluent to downstream processes.

Alternate 4: No Action

No action would be taken, and the WWTP would continue to be operated in its current configuration.

Selected Alternative:

Alternate 3 was selected as it was shown to have the lowest 20-year present worth cost of the proposed alternatives. It also had the highest ranking in the non-monetary criteria evaluation, which addressed the constructability and ability to implement, ability to adapt/modify to meet future permit requirements, operations and maintenance difficulty, treatment process performance and reliability, and operator training requirements.

G. Environmental Justice

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Fair treatment means that no group of people, including a racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

The proposed project for the WWTP improvements will be contained within the existing plant site and adjacent property currently owned by Tuscumbia Utilities. The project's immediate surrounding areas are zoned for residential and commercial usage. The nearest disadvantaged area to the WWTP is not near the plant and will not be negatively impacted by the project. All construction will follow Best Management Practices (BMP), and surface features will be restored to pre-construction conditions or better.

The results of the proposed project will have a positive impact on the surrounding areas and communities by preventing adverse impacts on the environment and community health through more efficient processes and new, updated, more efficient equipment.

H. Environmental Consequences; Mitigative Measures

Noise should not be a nuisance on this project. To mitigate impact on the surrounding community, construction activities will be limited to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm unless special activities are required at night during periods of low flow to the WWTP.

Work areas will be clearly defined in the contract documents along with specified locations for field offices and staging. All sensitive areas that are to remain protected and undisturbed will be indicated with the resident construction observer enforcing these requirements. During construction, the contractor will be required to properly contain and drain the site as well as to obtain any and all necessary construction permits for compliance with governmental stormwater regulations and permits (e.g. Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan). The contractor will be required to minimize dust to the greatest extent possible. Roads and work areas will be watered, when necessary, and swept clean. All disturbed areas will be seeded and mulched. Revegetation of the disturbed areas will consist of native grasses similar to that of the existing plant site. A Best Management Practices (BMP) and Implementation Plan will be required from the contractor during construction.

The construction will not have any signification or long-term effect on the air quality in the area. There will be no adverse impacts to public parks or prime farmland. No 303d listed streams will be impacted by the proposed projects. Appropriate BMPs will be utilized to further eliminate the possibility of stream impacts. Land clearing will be required for a small portion of the plant site and will be minimized to the greatest extent possible. No herbicides and/or defoliants will be allowed. All debris will be removed from the site, and no burning will be allowed. Disposal of excess soil and vegetative spoil, if required, shall be in accordance with local, state and federal requirements. There are multiple structures currently in service that will be decommissioned and no longer used following construction of the improvements. These structures will be demolished, to the greatest extent possible. This will consist of removing all mechanical and electrical equipment, saw-cutting the structure to a minimum of 5-ft. below grade, and filling-in the remaining structure with flowable fill and/or soil.

Endangered Species and Critical Habitat

Project review and concurrence was requested from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (F&W) Service. Review of the proposed project by the U.S. F&W Service found several species in the project area that are listed federally as threatened, endangered, or candidate species. Based on the U.S. F&W

review, it was determined that the project would have no effect on the listed species within the project area.

Historical and Archaeological

Review of the proposed project work by the Alabama Historical Commission found no potential adverse impact of cultural resources. Should artifacts or archaeological features be encountered during execution of project activities, work should cease, and the Alabama Historical Commission should be contacted immediately.

Wetlands and Floodplains

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was consulted for this project, which does not involve work in wetlands or water of the United States. The USACE has determined that construction activities for this project will not require a permit. The USACE has no objections to the project receiving grant funds.

The project was also reviewed by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) due to the nearby proximity of TVA-owned property. TVA concurred that the project area does not include property owned by TVA.

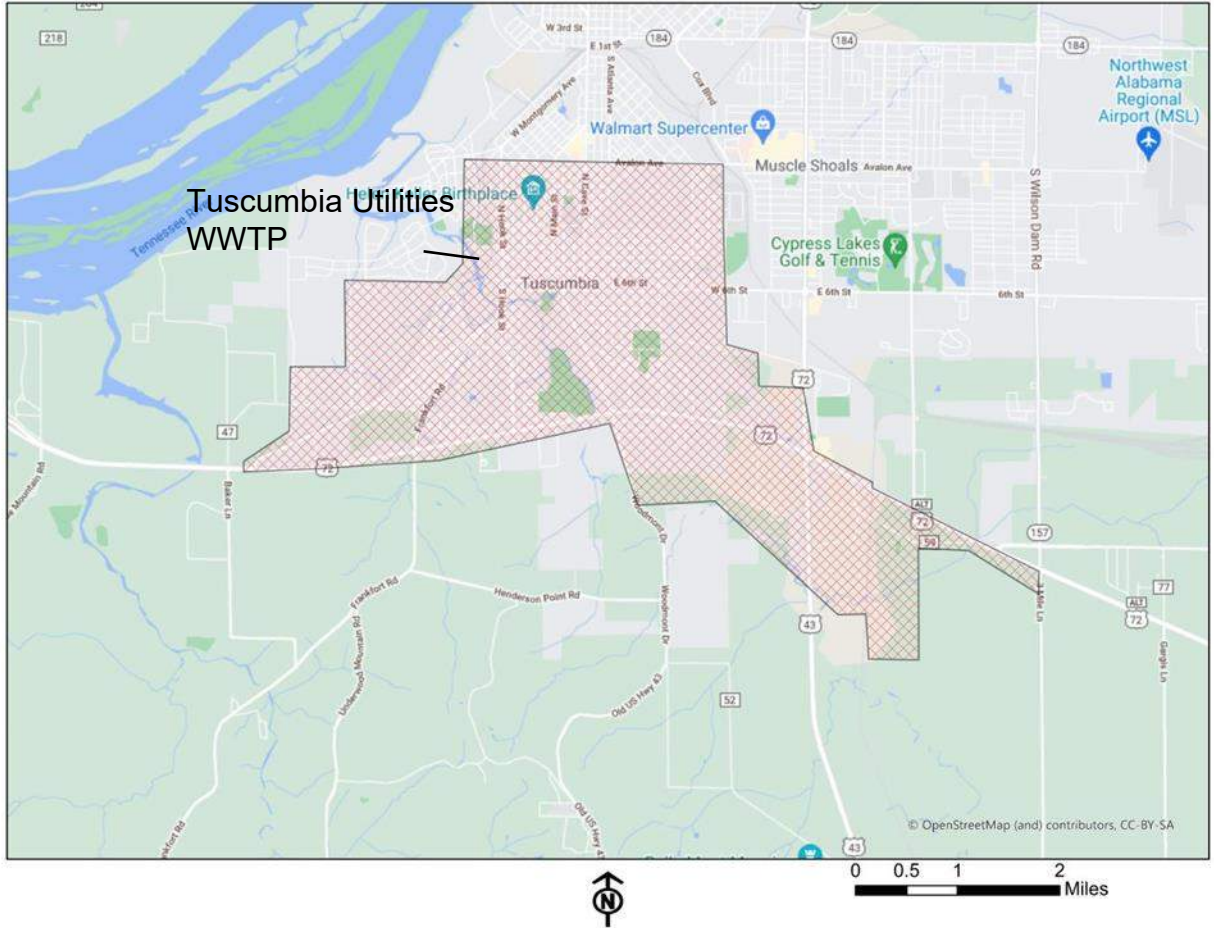
The project was also reviewed by the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments, and concurrence with the project was received.

I. Public Participation: Sources Consulted

A public meeting was held February 16, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Attendance was documented, the proposed project and environmental impacts were discussed, and questions, comments and concerns were also documented.

Sources to be consulted about this project for information or concurrence include the following:

Alabama Historical Commission
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Department of Interior – Fish and Wildlife Service
US Environmental Protection Agency
US Geological Survey
Tennessee Valley Association
Northwest Council of Local Governments
Alabama Department of Environmental Management

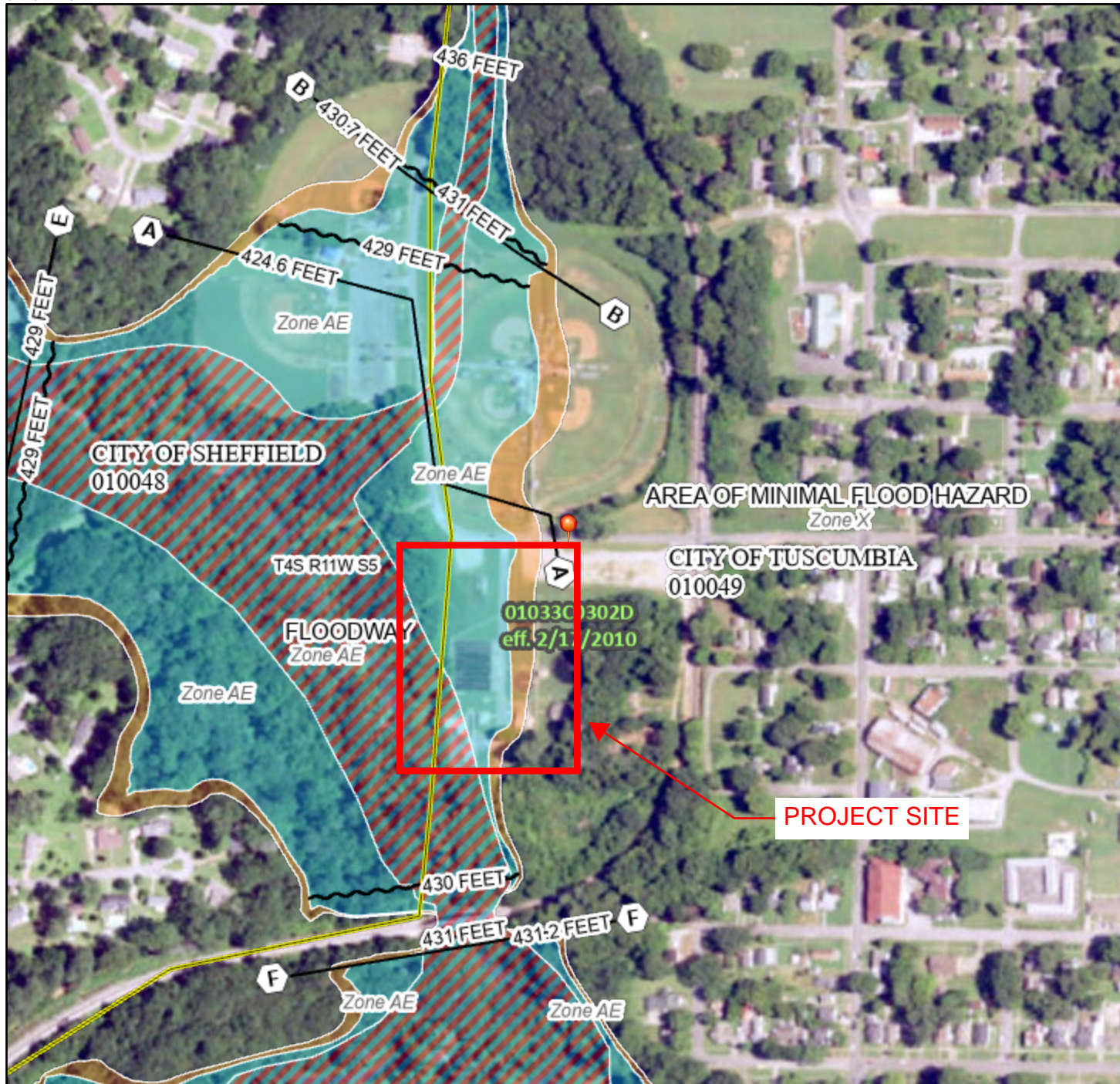


Existing Tuscumbia Utilities WWTP Service Area (Approximate)

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMMette



87°43'7"W 34°44'22"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

1:6,000

87°42'29"W 34°43'53"N

Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		17.5
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped



The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **1/18/2023 at 3:55 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900

Lisa D. Jones
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

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

February 22, 2023

Wes Cardwell
Garver, USA
5125 Research Dr. NW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Re: AHC 23-0407
Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
Colbert County

Dear Mr. Cardwell:

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,

Lee Anne Wofford
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/EDS/law



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office
1208 B Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526-4419
Phone: (251) 441-5181 Fax: (251) 441-6222
Email Address: alabama@fws.gov

In Reply Refer To:

February 01, 2023

Project code: 2023-0040783

Project Name: Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

IPaC Record Locator: 229-121882739

Please provide this document to the Federal agency or their designee with your loan/grant application.

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements' for specified threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled 'Clearance to Proceed with Federally-Insured Loan and Grant Project Requests'.

To whom it may concern:

On February 01, 2023, Lindsay Tucker used the IPaC determination key 'Clearance to Proceed with Federally-Insured Loan and Grant Project Requests'; dated August 12, 2022, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC tool](#) to evaluate potential impacts to listed species from a project named 'Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements' in Colbert County, Alabama (shown below):

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@34.734438,-87.71374115724713,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements':

The City of Tuscumbia is a small community located in Northwest Alabama that, in recent years, has faced significant water and wastewater infrastructure needs. To sustain Tuscumbia's growth, environment, and the continued high-quality services that their community has come to expect, Tuscumbia Utilities proceeded to address these needs as part of improvements to the water and wastewater treatment facilities (the collection system and distribution system are managed by the City of Tuscumbia whereas Tuscumbia Utilities is responsible for water and wastewater treatment).

The wastewater treatment plant was placed into operation in 1959 and still maintains much of the original equipment. This facility has only been upgraded one time since originally constructed – a construction effort completed in 1986 that added the facility's influent pump station, headworks, and final effluent pump station. However, despite this upgrade nearly three decades ago, the aging treatment plant can no longer support the community due to age and condition. The majority of the current facility's process equipment has reached the end of its useful life and requires continual operator attention, maintenance, and repairs to remain in service.

In 2021, Tuscumbia Utilities selected Garver to design improvements to their wastewater treatment plant to address the age, condition, and overall limitations of the existing facility previously described. These improvements, as currently designed, will improve existing unit processes through a combination of rehabilitation of existing processes and construction of new processes. This design effort is anticipated to be completed in Spring 2022 with bidding to occur immediately following completion of design.

A sequencing batch reactor (SBR) process will be constructed to replace the existing trickling filter process to enhance the treatment capabilities of the facility

as well as to provide redundancy and process flexibility for all flows entering the facility. The existing chlorine disinfection facility will be upgraded to an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection facility. This will equip staff with a disinfection process that can be optimized and controlled at the plant site – no longer requiring staff to monitor chlorine residual within the outfall piping, miles from the treatment plant. A supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system will provide continuous monitoring of all unit processes and allow Tuscumbia Utilities to reduce the current burden of staff overtime while being immediately notified should an issue arise when staff are not present. Lastly, an aerobic digestion process will allow Tuscumbia to reliably achieve a Class B biosolids product that will not require landfill disposal but instead be used as a soil amendment – a sustainable, environmentally advantageous solution.

Based on your answers provided, the proposed project is unlikely to have any detrimental effects to federally-listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, per this guidance, Lindsay Tucker has determined that Tuscumbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements will have No Effect on the species listed below.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of endangered species, bald eagles, and migratory birds. No further coordination with the Service is necessary.

Please be advised that, if later modifications are made to the project that do not meet the criteria described above, if additional information involving potential effects to listed species becomes available, or if a new species is listed, reinitiation of consultation may be necessary.

Clams

- Alabama Lampmussel *Lampsilis virescens* Experimental Population, Non-Essential
- Dromedary Pearlymussel *Dromus dromas* Endangered
- Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) *Lampsilis abrupta* Endangered
- Purple Cat's Paw (=purple Cat's Paw Pearlymussel) *Epioblasma obliquata* Experimental Population, Non-Essential
- Rough Pigtoe *Pleurobema plenum* Endangered

Flowering Plants

- Lyrate Bladderpod *Lesquerella lyrata* Threatened

Insects

- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate

Mammals

- Gray Bat *Myotis grisescens* Endangered
 - Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* Endangered
 - Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* Threatened
-

Additional considerations for non-federally listed species

- **Bald Eagle Nest Issues.** If any of the above-referenced activities (rehabilitation, demolition, or rebuilding) are proposed to occur **within 660 feet** of an active or alternate bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nest during the nesting season (October 1 through May 15), we recommend the applicant or their designated agent coordinate with the agency responsible for managing wildlife in their state. For additional information, please visit the Service's regional web page: <https://www.fws.gov/service/3-200-71-eagle-take-associated-not-purpose-activity-incidental-take>.
- **Migratory Bird Issues.** If any native birds are using the structures for nesting then actions should be taken so as not to disturb the adults, nests, eggs, or chicks as this could lead to a potential violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If nests are present or any birds are using the structures regularly for roosting purposes, we recommend the applicant or their designated agent coordinate with the appropriate Service's Field Office and visit the Service's Migratory Bird Program website at <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds> for recommendations on how impacts can be avoided and minimized.

Lindsay Tucker answered the determination key questions for this project as follows:

1. Does the project intersect Monroe County, FL?
Automatically answered
No
 2. Is the project exclusively a Federal loan transfer, where the original lending or mortgage institutions for existing project are no longer holding the loan and the property is being transferred via a federally-backed loan?
*No, this is **not** a Federal loan transfer as described above, or includes activities in addition to a Federal loan transfer.*
 3. Does the project include a federally-insured loan or federal grant funding?
Yes, the project includes a federally-insured loan or federal grant funding.
 4. Is the entire site currently developed/hard-surfaced (i.e., the site consists entirely of existing roads, sidewalks, buildings, driveways, etc., and does not contain any undeveloped and/or vegetated areas)?
No, the site contains some undeveloped and/or vegetated areas.
 5. Does the project site overlap designated or proposed critical habitat for any federally listed species?
Automatically answered
No
 6. Will completion of this project require clearing of **undisturbed** habitat (e.g., native habitat, agricultural areas, pasture, etc.) beyond the original footprint of the existing project?
*No, this project will **not** require clearing of any undisturbed habitat.*
-

7. Is the federally-insured loan or federal grant funding being used for demolition, rehabilitation, renovation, and/or rebuilding of one or more existing facilities (*e.g.*, residential, commercial and industrial sites, or utilities)?
Yes, the project includes Federal funding for work on existing facilities.
8. Will the project significantly alter the present capacity of an existing structure?
No, this project will not alter the present capacity of any existing structure.
9. Does your project involve structures that are being used by any federally endangered or threatened species (*e.g.*, roosting bonneted bats, denning indigo snakes, etc.) or are there known reports of species using the site?
*No, the site and/or structure(s) are **not** being used by any federally listed species.*

Attachments:

- Project questionnaire
 - Standard manatee construction conditions
 - Determination key description: Clearance to Proceed with Federally-Insured Loan and Grant Project Requests
 - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service contact list
-

Project Informational Questionnaire

As part of completing the determination key, Lindsay Tucker provided the following information about their project:

1. Please describe the loan/grant program you are using

ADEM CWSRF

2. Which Federal Agency is the lead agency providing the funding?

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

3. Which types of activities you will be conducting:

Demolition

Infrastructure

Rehabilitation

Utilities

4. Which types of structures this funding will address:

Wastewater treatment facility

5. Please describe the activity you will be conducting:

A sequencing batch reactor (SBR) process will be constructed to replace the existing trickling filter process to enhance the treatment capabilities of the facility as well as to provide redundancy and process flexibility for all flows entering the facility. The existing chlorine disinfection facility will be upgraded to an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection facility. This will equip staff with a disinfection process that can be optimized and controlled at the plant site – no longer requiring staff to monitor chlorine residual within the outfall piping, miles from the treatment plant. A supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system will provide continuous monitoring of all unit processes and allow Tuscumbia Utilities to reduce the current burden of staff overtime while being immediately notified should an issue arise when staff are not present. Lastly, an aerobic digestion process will allow Tuscumbia to reliably achieve a Class B biosolids product that will not require landfill disposal but instead be used as a soil amendment – a sustainable, environmentally advantageous solution.

6. How many square feet of facilities will be affected by this project?

5,000

7. Are there bald eagles within 660 feet of the site, or migratory birds or bats using structures on the site?

None of the above

Determination Key Description: Clearance To Proceed With Federally-Insured Loan And Grant Project Requests

This key was last updated in IPaC on August 12, 2022. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This determination key is for all Federally-insured loans, loan transfers, or grant requests for projects that may be completed without requiring additional clearing of undisturbed habitat beyond the original footprint of the existing project. For the purposes of this key, Federal loan transfers are those transfers where the original lending or mortgage institutions for existing projects are no longer holding the loans and the properties are being transferred via federally backed loans. Projects may include demolition, rehabilitation, renovations, and/or rebuilding of existing structures (*e.g.*, commercial buildings, multi-family housing, single-family housing), and various utilities projects such as water and wastewater treatment facilities, sewer or power line repair, etc.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead Federal agency charged with the protection and conservation of Federal Trust Resources, such as threatened and endangered species and migratory birds, in accordance with section 7 of the [Endangered Species Act of 1973](#), as amended (Act) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#), (16 U.S.C. 668-668d) (Eagle Act), and the [Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#) (40 Stat. 755; 16 U.S.C. 701 et seq.).

Recently, many Federal agencies have activated programs that have resulted in an increased consumer demand to initiate projects through federally-backed loans and grants, all of which require those same Federal agencies to comply with Section 7 of the Act. Consequently, we have experienced an increase in the number of requests for review of these government-backed loan and grant projects. These include, but are not limited to:

1. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Neighborhood Stabilization and Community Development Block Grant programs, which may be managed by Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity;
 2. U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program;
 3. U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Housing Assistance and Rural Development Loan and Grant Assistance programs;
 4. U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulatory airport and runway modifications;
 5. U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance program; and
-

6. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund, managed by Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

In order to fulfill the Act's statutory obligations in a timely and consistent manner, and to assist Federal agencies, State and local governments, and consultants in addressing Section 7 and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental impact review requirements, we provide the following guidance and clearance relative to the criteria stated below for Federally-insured loan and grant project requests in all cities and unincorporated areas throughout Florida, with the exception of Monroe County.

This guidance is based on the signed letters:

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Clearance to Proceed with Federally-Insured Loan and Grant Project Requests](#) in Florida.

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Clearance to Proceed with Federally-Insured Loan and Grant Project Requests](#) in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: Garver
Name: Lindsay Tucker
Address: 808 Howard Avenue
Address Line 2: Suite 201
City: Bixoli
State: MS
Zip: 39530
Email: litucker@garverusa.com
Phone: 2518957594



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

February 03, 2023

SUBJECT: File No. LRN-2023-00131; Tuscumbia, Alabama Wasterwater Treatment Plant, Tennessee River Mile 252.1 Right Bank, Colbert County, Alabama.

Lindsay Tucker, PE
Colbert County Commission
201 North Main Street, Courthouse
Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674

Dear Lindsay Tucker:

This is in response to your January 27, 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, reading "Eric Sinclair", is positioned above the typed name.

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



Post Office Box1010, Muscle Shoals, AL 35662

April 25, 2023

Ms. Lindsay Tucker, P.E.
Garver Engineering.
On Behalf of the City of Tuscumbia
5125A Research Drive
Huntsville, Alabama 35805

Dear Ms. Tucker:

CITY OF TUSCUMBIA UTITILES STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) APPLICATION –
COLBERT COUNTY, ALABAMA

We have reviewed your March 8, 2023 letter notifying the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) of the City of Tuscumbia application for state revolving funds for the rehabilitation of the Tuscumbia wastewater treatment plant.

Based on the information submitted, it appears that no TVA property is being requested for the project. If you determine that any of the proposed activities will create a new obstruction, then the proposal would require approval from TVA. A completed application, final plans with detailed drawings, and the appropriate application fee should be sent to TVA for review.

We appreciate the opportunity and look forward to working with you in the future. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jkaustin@tva.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenley Austin", is written over a light gray circular background.

Kenley Austin
Program Manager
Reservoir Land Use & Permitting



Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments
P.O. Box 2603 Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662

Keith Jones
Executive Director
kjones@nacolg.org

256-389-0500
256-389-0599 Fax

Sandra Burroughs
Chairman

Kerry Underwood
Vice Chairman

Andy Betterton
Secretary

March 8, 2023

Lindsay I. Tucker, P.E.
Garver Engineers
5125A Research Drive, NW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Re: Project: Tuscumbia Utilities
ADEM SRF funds for Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Ms. Tucker:

We are in receipt of your letter requesting comment on the proposed project which will involve significant improvements being made to Tuscumbia's Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizing ADEM SRF funds. As you describe in detail, the scope of the proposed project will address limitations and restrictions stemming from age, condition, and design of the existing plant. As described, the proposed project would comprehensively address all improvements the plant requires, thereby preventing permitting violations, reducing the financial burden of ineffective and inefficient treatment processes and staff overtime, and enabling Tuscumbia Utilities' ability to maintain the high quality of service its customers have come to expect. Based on the benefits referenced above, and others too numerous to reference in this letter, NACOLG fully supports this request for ADEM SRF funds. Furthermore, we concur with the project's consistency and compatibility with regional and local development plans and programs. This letter shall serve as regional concurrence with the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Jones", is written over a circular blue ink stamp. The stamp contains some illegible text.

Keith Jones
Executive Director
NACOLG