



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

10/26/18

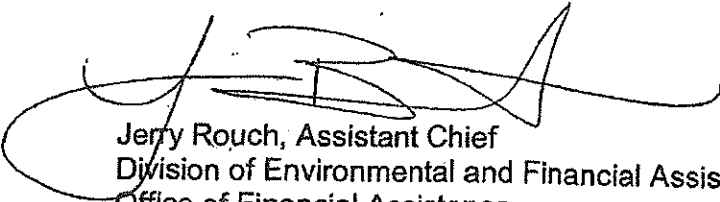
Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact
Columbiana County
Water Treatment Plant Pump House Expansion Project
WSRLA # FS390326-0012

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a WTP pump house and well connection project in your area which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency intends to finance through its Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) below-market interest rate revolving loan program. The LER describes the project, its costs, and expected environmental benefits. Making available this LER fulfills Ohio EPA's environmental review and public notice requirements for this loan program.

Ohio EPA analyzes environmental effects of proposed projects as part of its WSRLA program review and approval process. We have concluded that the proposed project should not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. This project's relatively narrow scope and lack of environmental impacts qualifies it for the LER rather than a more comprehensive Environmental Assessment. More information can be obtained by calling or writing the person named at the end of the document.

Loan award will proceed without further environmental review or public comment unless new information shows that environmental conditions of the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,



Jerry Rouch, Assistant Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance
Office of Financial Assistance

JR/DH

attachment

LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Water Treatment Plant Pump House Expansion

WSRLA # FS390326-0012

Address: Peter J. Monteleone, Village Manager
Village of East Palestine
85 North Market Street
East Palestine, OH 44413

B. History and Existing Conditions

The Village of East Palestine operates a Class 1 ground water treatment plant that serves a population of 4,721 and has an average production of 0.55 million gallons per day (MGD) with a 1.15 MGD plant design capacity. Currently, two wells (Nulf and Rhodes well's) supply water to the East Palestine Water Treatment Plant (WTP). A third well (Harding Well) is maintained on standby only. Harding Well was rehabilitated in 2014 and Nulf Well was rehabilitated in 1992 after their original casings collapsed. Nulf Well and Rhodes Well are always on and operated to provide adequate water quantity.

In 2014, the Village experienced a drinking water shortage with the failure of electronic controls in the water distribution system, which in turn collapsed one of three source wells. In an effort to reduce the risk of such future events, the Village drilled a fourth well (Zulch Well) in 2016 as added protection.

C. Project Description

The proposed project consists of constructing a new pump house adjacent to the existing WTP; installing new piping from the existing wells to the new pump house. The Zuch Well is located west of the East Palestine City Park at City Park Way off of State Route 558. A 6-foot section of the WTP's southwest wall will be demolished for the proposed pump house addition. Raw water pipe between the wells and new pump house includes 140 feet of 6-inch pipe from Well #1 to the pump house, 540 feet of 6-inch pipe from Well #4 to the pump house, 510 feet of 6-inch pipe from Well #6 to pump house, 980 feet of 6-inch pipe from Well #7 to the pump house. The project will also include 195 feet of 6-inch pipe as a bypass line from the pump house to Bull Run Creek and the replacement of 650 feet of 12-inch finished water pipe from the existing treatment plant to existing pipe in West Main Street.

D. Estimated Project Costs

The Village will borrow approximately \$985,368 from the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) at the small system interest rate of 2.18%. During the 20-year loan period, the Village will save approximately \$246,000 by using WSRLA dollars at this rate, compared to the market rate of 3.43%.

E. Project Schedule

The project loan will be awarded in October 2018. Construction is estimated to be completed by September 2019, and loan repayment will begin in January 2020.

F. Public Notification

Public participation for this project was completed in the form of public council meetings as well as included in articles on the Village website.

Ohio EPA will make a copy of this document available to the public on its web page: <https://www.epa.state.oh.us/defa/ofa#169638770-wsrla-documents-for-review-and-comment> and distribute it to interested parties upon request. Information supporting this Limited Environmental Review (LER) is available from the project contact named below.

G. Planning Information

The planning activities for the proposed project have identified no potentially-significant adverse impacts. Specifically, the action is expected to have no significant short or long-term adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment or on sensitive resources such as: floodplains; wetlands; riparian areas; prime or unique agricultural lands; aquifer recharge zones; archaeologically or historically significant sites; or threatened or endangered species. The proposed project will improve the overall water supply system.

H. Conclusion

The proposed project qualifies generally for an LER in that it is an action involving an existing drinking water system that involves minor upgrading and or minor expansion of the existing wellfield, and it also meets the following specific criteria for an LER:

It has no significant environmental effect – because the project is confined to the previously disturbed areas of waterline installations and no special, high quality or extensive environmental resources exist at the well site location. It does not require extensive specific impact mitigation and it has no effect on high value environmental resources. Standard construction best management practices will be used to address things like noise, dust, traffic disruption, and storm water runoff. It 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.

It is cost effective and it is not a controversial action - The average annual water rate is \$277.56 or \$23.13 per month which represents 0.67% of East Palestine's median household income (MHI) of \$40,854. It is expected that after project implementation, user charges will increase by \$1.92 per customer from \$21.21 per month to \$23.13 per month for residential customers.

It does not significantly increase the amount of water withdrawn from an existing water source – The additional well has been tested and demonstrated its use will not adversely affect the aquifer. It will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population.

For more information, please contact:

Dan Blanchard

Ohio EPA - DEFA

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(614) 644-3642

daniel.blanchard@epa.ohio.gov

Figure 1: Site map

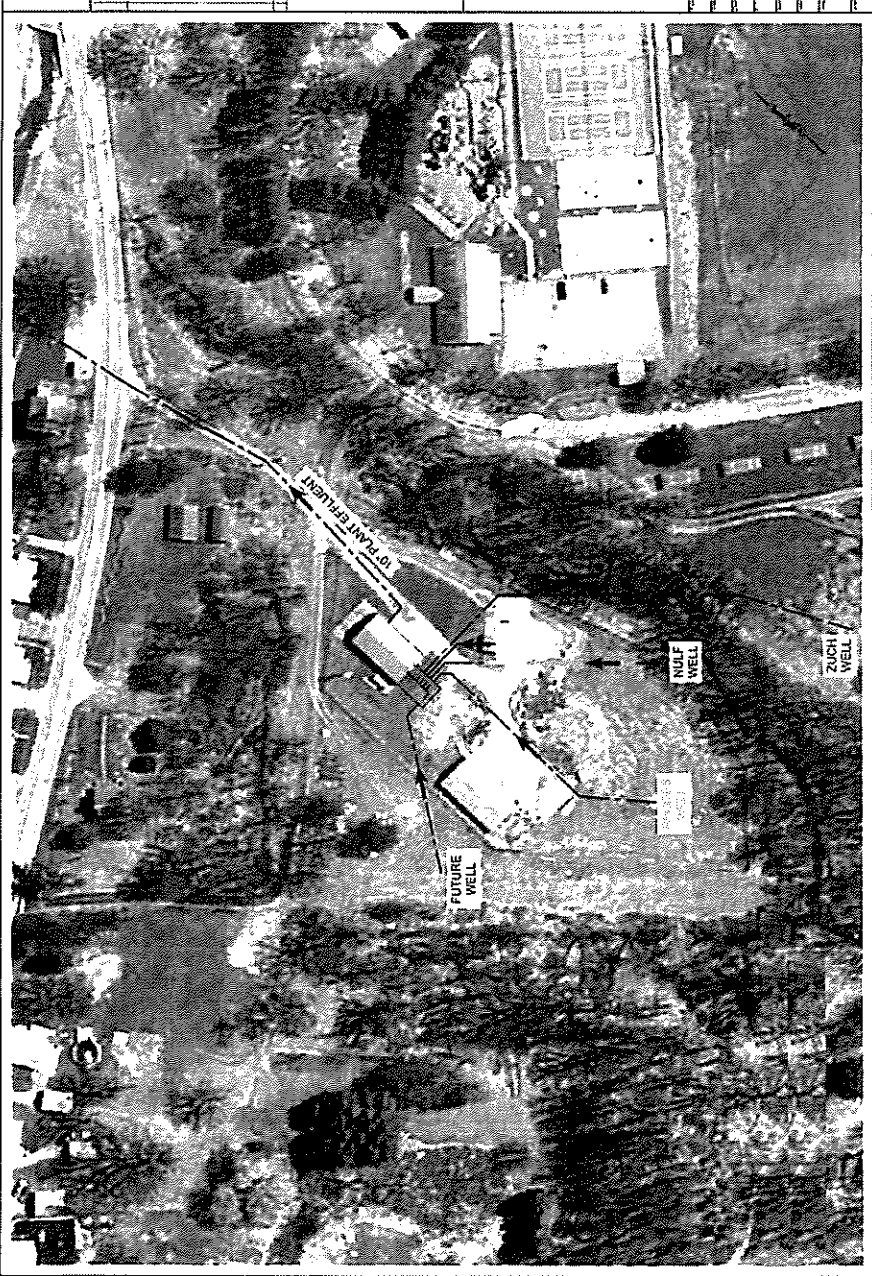


Figure 2: City and County maps

