

# Categorical Exclusion Review Checklist for DWSRF Projects

Applicant Alexander County  
 PWSID 0102020

WIF # 1805  
 P&S Serial # 14

## Required for all Categorical Exclusions (CE's)

Cross Cutting Authority	Responsible Agency, Action(s) Taken & Dates
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, Pub. L. 86-523, as amended	<b>North Carolina Cultural Resources</b> for signoff. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blanket letter from applicant OK? <u>9/30/2013</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments from agency OK? _____
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, PL 89-665, as amended	
Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11990	<b>USACE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> By "no permits required" comment letter from USACOE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed "no jurisdiction" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed "no permits required" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer <u>9/30/2013</u> <input type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed "all permits in place" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer _____
Endangered Species Act, Pub. L. 93-205, as amended	<b>USFWS for signoff</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments from USFWS OK _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed blanket letter from applicant's engineer for project scopes that don't require comments (see factsheet) <u>9/30/2013</u> <input type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed blanket letter from applicant's engineer after 30 days pass without USFWS comment _____
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Pub. L. 85-624, as amended	
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Pub. L. 90-542, as amended	
Environmental Justice, Executive Order 12898  <i>Water line Replacement + AMR - Existing ROW closing water line loops -</i>	<b>Loans and Grants group and Regional Engineer</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Emailed RE on 1/9/2014</i></span> Based on the discussions with the regional engineer during the priority review period : <span style="float: right;"><i>as per RE reply email</i></span> 1. Does the potentially affected community include an EJ community? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No 2. Are there significant environmental impacts likely to fall disproportionately on minority and/or low-income members of the community and/or tribal resources? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Coastal Barrier Resources Act, Pub. L. 97-348  <i>Alexander</i>	<b>Division of Coastal Management (DCM)</b> 1. Is this project located in any of the following counties: <i>Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No 2. If the answer to question #1 is "Yes", then DCM must find if the project is in an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) established by the Coastal Resources Commission. Is it in one of these AEC's? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No DCM Response Date: <u>N/A.</u> 3. If the answer to question #2 is "Yes", then the project requires a CAMA permit. Does the project have a CAMA permit? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No CAMA Permit Date: _____
Coastal Zone Management Act, Pub. L 92-583, as amended	

CE posted on Web? (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

## Request for Categorical Exclusion from Substantive Environmental Review

Instructions:

1. Provide the DEH number for the project for which you are requesting consideration.
2. Please fill out the applicant's formal name. If you are a county authority, please specify which county. "County Water District VII" is not an acceptable name; "ABC County Water District VII" is acceptable.
3. Please check all applicable exclusions. Failure to check an applicable exclusion will result in the rejection of your request.
4. Either the "authorized representative," or the Professional Engineer responsible for the PER must sign the form. If the PE signs the form, it must include the PE seal.

DEH No.: 1805

PWSID: 01-02-020

Applicant: Alexander County , North Carolina

**Project  
Description**

Alexander Water System Improvements generally including installation of approximately 45,500 linear feet of 8-inch and 2-inch water lines with related appurtenances, to provide needed municipal water along portions of Zeb Watts Road, Liberty Grove Church Road, Dula Loop, Ned Herman Road, Polly Bowman Road, Espie Little Road, Miller Point Road, Deal Farm Road, and Kirkpatrick Lane, along with replacement of aged water meters with new automated read meters to provide more efficient accounting of water consumption and billing.

We certify that the project described in the application for state-supplied financial assistance meets all of the applicable general criteria listed in 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (1), and consists solely of activities exempted under the specific criteria of 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2) checked below:

**Please check all the exclusion(s) that apply:**

- Potable water systems including the construction or rehabilitation of wells for water supply purposes with associated groundwater withdrawals of less than 1,000,000 gallons per day where such withdrawals are not expected to cause alterations in established land use patterns, or degradation of groundwater or surface water quality.  
[15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(c)].

Other potable water systems including the following:

- Improvements to water treatment plants that involve less than 1,000,000 gallons per day added capacity and total design withdrawal less than one-fifth of the 7-day, 10-year low flow of the contributing stream;  
[15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(i)]
- Improvements not intended to add capacity to the facility; [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(ii)]
- Installation of waterlines and appurtenances in existing rights-of-way for streets or utilities, or water lines and appurtenances less than five miles in length and having only directional bore stream crossings or no stream crossings; [NCGS. § 113A-12(1) & 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(iii)]
- Construction of water tanks, or booster pumping or secondary or remote disinfection stations;  
[15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(iv)]
- Dams less than 25 feet in height and having less than 50 acre-feet or storage capacity [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(h)] (Notes: #1 Dam projects are ineligible for federally recognized CE. #2 Only off-stream raw water reservoirs for pre-treatment purposes are eligible for SRF funding.)

We further certify that the project does not have a significant direct, indirect, cumulative or secondary adverse environmental impact as described in 15A NCAC 01C .0306, and that none of the following descriptions apply to the project:

- the proposed activity may have a potential for significant adverse effects on wetlands; surface waters such as rivers, streams and estuaries; parklands; game lands; prime agricultural or forest lands; or areas of local, state or federally recognized scenic, recreational, archaeological, ecological, scientific research or historical value, including secondary impacts; or would threaten a species identified on the Department of Interior's or the state's threatened and endangered species lists; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (1)] or
- the proposed activity could cause changes in industrial, commercial, residential, agricultural, or silvicultural land use concentrations or distributions which would be expected to create adverse water quality, instream flow, air quality, or ground water impacts; or affect long-term recreational benefits, fish, wildlife, or their natural habitats; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (2)] or
- the proposed activity has secondary impacts, or is part of cumulative impacts, not generally covered in the approval process for the state action, and that may result in a potential risk to human health or the environment; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (3)].

Therefore, we believe our project is eligible for consideration for a CE from the State's environmental assessment review processes and request that the State of North Carolina concur with our determination.

We understand that the State of North Carolina may determine that the proposed activity is of such an unusual nature or has such widespread implications that a concern for its environmental effects has been identified by DENR or expressed to DENR. We understand that, in this case, the activity may be ineligible for CE under 15A NCAC 01C .0306 (4).

We recognize that this request supplies information sufficient **only** for state-financed assistance under the 15A NCAC 01J and 01L rules. If we are applying (either additionally or exclusively) for federally-financed assistance under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, additional steps (including obtaining comment letters and publicizing the requested action) apply.

Douglas G. Chapman, PE, McGill Associates, P.A.

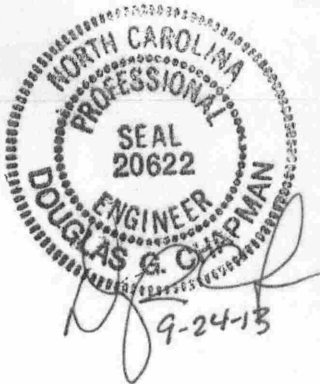
Authorized Representative Printed Name

*DGC* 9-24-13

Authorized Representative Signature & Date

Senior Project Manager

Authorized Representative Title



State Use Only (Review)

Reviewed by: *[Signature]*

Date: 1/10/2014

Departmental Approval: *[Signature]*

Date: 1/10/2014

*effective 9/30/2013 - the date all materials were received.*

WIF # \_\_\_\_\_  
ALEXANDER COUNTY WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS  
ALEXANDER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

ADDENDUM NO. 1  
FEDERAL CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION STATEMENTS

This addendum serves to address the Federal Categorical Exclusion for the proposed project.

1. NC Department of Cultural Resources (NCDCCR)

**This project meets the Federal Categorical Exclusion requirements for NCDCCR.** The project consists solely of the following components:

- Replacement water meters on existing water lines; and
- New and replacement waterlines in previously disturbed road or utility right-of-way.

2. US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)

The project consists solely of new waterlines in previously disturbed road or utility right-of-way and water meters on already existing services on existing waterlines. For the water lines, USFWS has issued the enclosed comment letter dated April 9, 2010. USFWS confirms that according to their records and a review of the information provided, no federally listed species or their habitats occur on the site. The project is not likely to adversely affect Endangered Species or Threatened Species. **Therefore, USFWS requirements have been satisfied for the project.**

3. US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

None of the construction activities or facilities themselves is to occur in a stream, lake, or other body of water or in wetlands. **Therefore, we have determined that no US Army Corps of Engineers Permit is required.**

DOUGLAS G. CHAPMAN, PE



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## Ambikadevi, Kavitha

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**From:** Setzer, Britt  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2014 9:42 AM  
**To:** Ambikadevi, Kavitha  
**Subject:** RE: Alexander County WIF1805 DWSRF Funding Application\_EJ Question clarification

The answers to the questions concerning the Alexander project are listed below.

1. Are you aware of any EJ communities in the project area, other than any described in an EA? - No
2. Are you aware of any EJ communities not in the project area, but who use resources in the project area, other than any described in an EA? - No
3. Are you aware of any significant disproportional risk to any such EJ communities, other than any described in an EA? In particular, are there any EJ communities near the route of any waterlines that will not be served that in your opinion should be served as part of the project? - No

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**From:** Ambikadevi, Kavitha  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 09, 2014 12:22 PM  
**To:** Setzer, Britt  
**Cc:** Tomaino, Vincent  
**Subject:** FW: Alexander County WIF1805 DWSRF Funding Application\_EJ Question clarification

Britt,  
As you can see, I am new to DWSRF projects, EA and EJ communities. Vincent has graciously pointed out that these (following) are the particular questions we are looking for comments from you. Sorry for the confusion.

**Per executive order 12898, an EJ community is a community with a large share of minority or low-income populations.** Please answer these questions to the best of your knowledge. Additional project information is available upon request.

1. Are you aware of any EJ communities in the project area, other than any described in an EA?
2. Are you aware of any EJ communities not in the project area, but who use resources in the project area, other than any described in an EA?
3. Are you aware of any significant disproportional risk to any such EJ communities, other than any described in an EA? In particular, are there any EJ communities near the route of any waterlines that will not be served that in your opinion should be served as part of the project?

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes", first discuss the matter with the funding review engineer and then describe whether (or not) the project raises questions about environmental justice

Regards,  
Kavitha

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**From:** Ambikadevi, Kavitha  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 09, 2014 10:44 AM  
**To:** Setzer, Britt  
**Cc:** Tomaino, Vincent  
**Subject:** Alexander County WIF1805 DWSRF Funding Application\_EJ Question

Hi Britt Seltzer,

I have attached PER for the subject project. Please see if you can determine if the proposed project potentially affect EJ Community? And if Are there significant environmental impacts likely to fall disproportionately on minority/low income and tribal resources?