

## Categorical Exclusion

### North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure

Project Applicant: City of Hickory  
Date: July 26, 2021  
Project Number: CS370389-23  
Estimated Project Cost: \$31,057,700  
Estimated Funding Amount: \$30,000,000

Project Description: The proposed project will make the following improvements: Henry Forks Wastewater Treatment Facility solid handling upgrade including new solids receiving station, a new gravity belt thickener, two new belt filter presses, rehabilitate current solid holding basins, new dryer, dried product storage, new odor control unit, new generator and associated electrical and SCADA upgrade; and a new septage receiving station.

The above named applicant will receive funding assistance from the State Revolving Fund. The North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure (Division) has conducted a review of the project in accordance with the NCGS §159G-38. The Division has determined that this project is below the minor construction activities threshold outlined in 15A NCAC 01C .0408; therefore, the project is exempt from inter-agency review, and the preparation of additional environmental documents is not required.

This determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Division and will be available on the Division's website (<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/division-water-infrastructure/environmental-documents>). This determination can be revoked at any time adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision will be on file with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Infrastructure, and is available for public scrutiny upon request.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Ms. Jennifer Haynie, Environment and Special Projects Unit, Division of Water Infrastructure, 1633 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699, or she can be reached by phone at (919) 707-9173.

Sincerely,



Ken Pohlig, PE, Supervisor  
Wastewater Projects Unit  
Division of Water Infrastructure