



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

October 31, 2024

ROY COOPER  
Governor  
MARY PENNY KELLEY  
Secretary  
SHADI ESKAF  
Director

Jonathan Arnold, Public Utilities Director  
Gates County  
PO Box 148  
Gatesville, North Carolina 27938

Subject: Engineering Report Funding Approval  
Gates County  
0.015 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Restoration Gates Co Wastewater System  
DWI Project No.: SRF-W-0011

Dear Mr. Arnold:

The Division of Water Infrastructure (Division) has completed its review of the engineering report and environmental document for the subject project. Based upon the review, the Division has determined that the above-referenced project is eligible for funding as follows:

Eligible:

Rehabilitation of the 0.015 MGD WWTP including replacement of the lagoon liner, land application piping and sprinkler heads, chemical feed system, and flow meter; installation of an emergency generator and SCADA system.

Non-Eligible:

Paving of roadways in excess of the excavated area; spare parts, service contracts, and maintenance contracts; and extended warranties.

Based upon a detailed review of the future bid documents, the Division may determine that portions of the project are not eligible for funding and the total funding amount may be reduced.

Please note that funding is contingent on meeting the schedule provided in your *Letter of Intent to Fund*, or your approved Funding Deadline Extension approval letter (if applicable), as tabulated below:

<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Date</u>
Design-and-Bid Package Submittal	June 2, 2025
Design-and-Bid Package Approval	October 1, 2025
Advertise Project, Receive Bids, Submit Bid Information, <u>and</u> Receive Authority to Award	February 2, 2026
Execute Construction Contract(s)	March 2, 2026



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Infrastructure  
512 N. Salisbury Street | 1633 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1633  
919.707.9160

Jonathan Arnold, Public Utilities Director  
Gates County  
October 31, 2024  
Page 2 of 2

To facilitate the North Carolina Local Government Commission's (LGC) required review of the repayable-loan portion of the subject project, please complete (based on your organization's most recently completed, annual audit) the LGC's forms *LGC-108A* and *LGC-108C* and forward them to the Division, and specifically, directly to the attention of Mark Hubbard, P.E., who can be reached via e-mail at [mark.hubbard@deq.nc.gov](mailto:mark.hubbard@deq.nc.gov). Copies of the necessary LGC forms are available at the following URL: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-have-funding/construction-disbursement-funds#lgc-forms>.

Please submit Plans and Specifications via the new Online Supporting Documentation Submittal Form located at <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/DW-Document-Upload-Form>. The link to the online submittal form and a list of frequently asked questions can also be accessed from the Division's "I Have Funding" page, <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-have-funding>.

If you have any questions, please contact Julia Byrd either by telephone at 828.772.1475 or by e-mail at [julia.byrd@deq.nc.gov](mailto:julia.byrd@deq.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Trupti Desai*

Trupti Desai, P.E., Supervisor  
Wastewater and Stormwater Projects Unit

Attachments: Categorical Exclusion

cc: Landon Younce, P.E., Green Engineering, PLLC, [l.younce@greeneng.com](mailto:l.younce@greeneng.com)  
Trupti Desai, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Julia Byrd (DWI, via e-mail)  
Mark Hubbard, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Renee Parkman, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Michelle McKay (DWI, via e-mail)  
Shane Beeson, REHS (DWI, via e-mail)  
Susan Kubacki (DWI, via e-mail) (  
DWI Agreement ID 2000075006 (ER/EID – ERAL)

## Categorical Exclusion

### North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure

Project Applicant: *Gates County*  
Date: *October 31, 2024*  
Project Name: *0.015 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant Restoration*  
Project Number: *SRF-W-0011*  
Estimated Project Cost: *\$2,217,816*  
Estimated Funding Amount: *\$2,222,251*

#### Project Description:

Rehabilitation of the 0.015 MGD WWTP including replacement of the lagoon liner, land application piping and sprinkler heads, chemical feed system, and flow meter; installation of an emergency generator and SCADA system

The above-named applicant will receive funding assistance from the State Revolving Fund. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 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 the 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 Division, and is available for public scrutiny upon request.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed in writing to Ms. Stephanie Suter, Deputy Director, Division of Water Infrastructure, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 1633 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699. Alternatively, she can be reached via telephone at 919.707.9044 or via e-mail at [stephanie.suter@deq.nc.gov](mailto:stephanie.suter@deq.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Trupti Desai*

Trupti Desai, P.E., Supervisor  
Wastewater and Stormwater Projects Unit  
Division of Water Infrastructure