

# Request for Categorical Exclusion from Substantive Environmental Review (CE)

MAY 14 2018

Division of Water Infrastructure

## Instructions:

1. Provide the WIF number for the project for which you are requesting consideration.
2. Fill out the Applicant's formal name. For a county authority, please specify which county. "County Water District VII" is not a complete name; "ABC County Water District VII" is a complete name.
3. 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 must sign the form. If the Professional Engineer signs the form, the Professional Engineer must seal the form.
5. Submit as part of the ER/EID, following the "**Factsheet: Instructions for Applicants Seeking a Federal Categorical Exclusion**" available at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wi/drinkingwater/factsheets>.

WIF No.: 1933

Applicant: Town of Valdese

Project Name: 2018 Water System Upgrades Project

## Project Description

The Town of Valdese 2018 Water System Upgrades Project proposes to replace existing 14-inch, 12-inch, 6-inch, and 2-inch waterlines in the Eastwood Subdivision, along Hill Drive, Lakeview Acres Drive, and Logan Drive. These lines were installed in the 1960's and will be replaced with approximately 6,070 LF of new 6-inch PVC waterline, 600 LF of new 12-inch PVC waterline, and 3,740 LF of new 2-inch PVC waterline. Then the existing water services will be reconnected to the new waterlines. These existing waterlines have become brittle over the years and the Town of Valdese has performed many repairs on them.

Also included in this project is the installation of two altitude valves – one at the Logan Drive water storage tank, and one at the Drexel Road water storage tank. As it stands now, when finished water is pumped directly from the water treatment plant to the distribution system, these tanks overflow if not valved off manually. These altitude valves will allow these tanks to fill and shut off without personnel from the Town having to open and close valves.

I 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.)



I 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, I believe our project is eligible for consideration for a CE from the State's environmental assessment review processes and request that the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) concur with this determination.

I understand that DENR 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. I understand that, in this case, the activity may be ineligible for CE under 15A NCAC 01C .0306 (4).

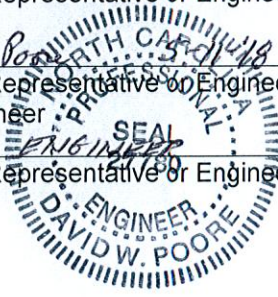
- We are applying for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan and include the required comment letters. **OR**
- We are not applying for the DWSRF.

David W. Poore, PE, CPESC

Authorized Representative or Engineer Printed Name

*David W. Poore*  
Authorized Representative or Engineer Signature & Date  
Project Engineer

Authorized Representative or Engineer Title



State Use Only (Review)

Reviewed by: DMG

Date: JUNE 20, 2018

Departmental Approval: *Wendy Julia Tomer*

Date: 21 June 2018



# Review Checklist: Request for Categorical Exclusion for DWSRF Projects

Applicant: TOWN OF VALDESE WIF # 1933  
 Project Name 2018 WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES

Required for all Requests for Categorical Exclusion (CEs)	
Cross-Cutting Authority	Responsible Agency/Action(s) Taken/Dates Actions Taken
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, Pub. L. 86-523, as amended	<b>North Carolina Dept. of Cultural Resources</b> for signoff. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blanket letter from applicant OK? <u>JUN 20, 2018</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>US Army Corps of Engineers</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>MAY 4, 2018</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>US Fish &amp; Wildlife Service for signoff</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments from USFWS OK <u>APR. 23, 2018</u> <input type="checkbox"/> By sealed & signed blanket letter from applicant's engineer for project scopes that don't require comments (see factsheet) _____ <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 <u>PROJECT CONSISTS OF REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING WATER LINES.</u>	<b>DWSRF Funding Unit and the local PWSS Regional Engineer</b> Does the project require the assistance of the PWS Section Regional Supervisor to determine possible EJ impacts? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes: 1. Does the potentially affected community include an EJ community? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 type="checkbox"/> No
Coastal Barrier Resources Act, Pub. L. 97-348	<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 AECs? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No      DCM Response Date: _____ 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 type="checkbox"/> No      CAMA Permit Date: _____
Coastal Zone Management Act, Pub. L 92-583, as amended	

Signed Request for CE posted on Web? (optional) \_\_\_\_\_





## United States Department of the Interior



### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Asheville Field Office  
160 Zillicoa Street Suite #B  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

April 23, 2018

Mr. David W. Poore  
West Consultants, PLLC  
405 South Sterling Street  
Morganton, North Carolina 28655

Dear Mr. Poore:

Subject: Proposed Water System Upgrades Project (WIF-1933), Valdese, Burke County, North Carolina

We received your letter dated March 29, 2018 (received April 2, 2018), requesting our comments on the subject project. The following comments are provided in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. §4321 et seq.) and section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (Act).

We have no objections to the proposed project. According to our records and a review of the information you provided, no federally listed species or their habitats occur in the immediate project area. Therefore, we believe the requirements under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act are fulfilled. However, obligations under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered, (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner that was not considered in this review, or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is determined that may be affected by the identified action.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. If we can be of assistance or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Allen Ratzlaff of our staff at 828/2583939, Ext. 229. In any future correspondence concerning this project, please reference our Log Number 4-2-18-235.

cc:

Olivia Munzer, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, [olivia.munzer@ncwildlife.org](mailto:olivia.munzer@ncwildlife.org)  
Mr. Vincent Tomaino, Division of Water Infrastructure, 1633 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC  
27699-1633



405 South Sterling Street, Morganton NC 28655

828 433 5661 / fax 828 433 5662 / info@west-consultants.com

TOWN OF VALDESE  
2018 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
WIF - 1933

ENGINEERING REPORT

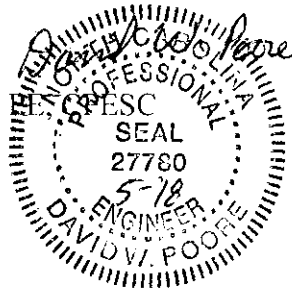
I, David W. Poore, PE, CPESC, as designer of this project make the following statement:

None of the construction activities or facilities themselves is to occur in a stream, lake, or other body of water or in wetlands. This project includes no stream disturbances or impacts.

I have determined that no US Army Corps of Engineer Permit is Required.

WEST CONSULTANTS, PLLC

David W. Poore,  
May 4, 2018





405 South Sterling Street, Morganton, NC 28655

828 433 5661 / fax 828 433 5662 / info@west-consultants.com

ADDENDUM TO  
TOWN OF VALDESE  
2018 WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES PROJECT  
WIF - 1933  
ENGINEERING REPORT

I, David W. Poore, PE, CPESC, as designer of this project make the following statement:

All work proposed for this project will occur in previously disturbed road or utility rights of way. Therefore, there is no potential for disturbing cultural or historical resources and no comment letter from the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources is needed for this project.

WEST CONSULTANTS, PLLC

*David Poore*

David W. Poore, PE, CPESC

June 20, 2018

