Honorable Ms. Gail Fry, Mayor  
City of Toccoa  
92 North Alexander Street  
Toccoa, Georgia 30577

APR 23 2020

RE: GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-013  
Eastanollee Creek WPCP Improvements – Phase II  
Categorical Exclusion (CE)  
NPDES Permit No. GA0021814  
EPD #2019-193  
Stephens County

Dear Mayor Fry:

Attached is a copy of a *Categorical Exclusion* (CE) prepared for the above-referenced project. The public comment period for this CE is 30 days. **Please ensure that the CE is posted at a conspicuous location at Toccoa City Hall for public review for 30 days from the date of this letter.**

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 656-3229 or Chetan.Sulane@dnr.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chetan Sulane  
Municipal Permitting Unit  
Wastewater Regulatory Program

cc: Ms. Sarah Oken, GEFA (soken@gefa.ga.gov)  
Mr. Alex Wiseman, Carter & Sloope, Inc. (awiseman@cartersloope.com)  
Mr. Harry Scott, Utilities Director, City of Toccoa (hscott@cityoftoccoa.com)
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Eastanollee Creek WPCP Improvements – Phase II
City of Toccoa (Stephens County)
GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-013

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State’s Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned. The proposed project consists of rehabilitating the aeration basin, secondary clarifiers, return activated sludge pump station, chemical storage and feed system, UV disinfection, aerobic digesters, and the solids dewatering system. The proposed project will also involve minor renovations to the laboratory and electrical building. All construction will be located within the existing plant site.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: functional replacement of equipment, minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, and construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent to existing facilities that do not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing facility. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

This determination becomes effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated. The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at Toccoa City Hall.
All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit comments within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice via email to chetan.sulane@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
Watershed Protection Branch  
Wastewater Regulatory Program  
ATTN: Chetan Sulane  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding approval of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice.

Publish Date: APR 28 2020

Richard E. Dunn, Director  
Environmental Protection Division