

Public Notice
ISSUANCE OF A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR A PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE
VIRGINIA WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING FUND

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The Virginia Department of Health has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a waterworks project proposed to be funded through the Virginia Water Supply Revolving Fund which administers funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The FONSI is supported by a Statement of Environmental Review (SER). The applicant is The Town of Blackstone.

The proposed project includes the complete replacement of an existing aeration system in the Nottoway River Reservoir. The new system is proposed to have the same footprint and boundaries as the existing system. The existing diffused aeration system consists of four distribution lines for aerating the reservoir and one 40 Hp compressor. The compressor that feeds the aeration system and supply lines is located within the existing compressor building which is directly adjacent to the northeastern bank of the reservoir. Each distribution line consists of one 1-inch diffuser line and one ¾-inch buoyancy line both strapped together to CMU blocks equally spaced throughout the distribution line length. The compressor building is located within a fenced area surrounded with vegetation maintained by mowing. The land disturbance associated with the proposed project will be confined to an area totaling approximately 300 sq ft. This area of disturbance includes the construction of a new 4-foot by 4-foot concrete pad adjacent to the compressor building and uncovering existing trenching to replace approximately 50 feet of distribution lines underground from the exit of the compressor building to just below the water surface.

A review of the Environmental Assessment conducted on this project indicates that either significant environmental impacts would not result from the proposed project or significant environmental impacts have been eliminated by making changes in the project. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Virginia Department of Health has assessed the potential environmental effects on the human environment and an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. The basis for this determination was made after the applicant contacted ten federal and state agencies. This determination was made after reviewing the environmental clearance letters from each agency, the Environmental Assessment, public comments, and conducting an Environmental Review site visit. In order to avoid or minimize any adverse environmental impact, the Virginia Department of Health will require that The Town of Blackstone ensure construction is carried out in strict accordance with all applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations. Prior to implementing construction, all applicable permits and approvals must be obtained.

Persons may comment in writing to the Department on the proposed decision within 30 days from the first publication date. Comments shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and shall contain a complete, concise statement of the factual basis for the comments. Only those comments received within this period will be considered by the Department.

All pertinent information, including the FONSI, the SER, the Environmental Assessment and the support documentation is on file and may be inspected and arrangements made for copying at The Virginia Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water, Lexington Field Office, 131 Walker Street, Lexington, Virginia 24450; phone (540) 463-0406. Following the comment period, the Department will make its final determination.

All comments should be addressed to:

Kelly Ward, Program Director
Financial and Construction Assistance Programs
Virginia Department of Health – Office of Drinking Water
109 Governor Street, Room 633,
Richmond, VA 23219