Maryland
Department of the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary
Adam Ortiz, Deputy Secretary

November 4, 2026

Mr. Jason Dubow, Manager State Clearinghouse
Maryland State Clearinghouse and Intergovernmental Assistance
Maryland Department of State Planning
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

RE: Project: Hagerstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
Location: City of Hagerstown, Washington County
Funds: State SRF Loan: $20,000,000

Dear Mr. Dubow:

Please initiate State Clearinghouse review for the City of Hagerstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project. The Maryland Department of the Environment intends to secure the Board of Public Works approval for this project in the near future. Enclosed for your review is a package containing a project description, budget, location map and tentative project schedule. Additionally, the package includes a copy of the Categorical Exclusion CE#714 consistent with COMAR 26.03.11 since the project is to be financed by the State Revolving Loan Funds (SRF) program.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, I can be reached at 410-537-3770. Your continued cooperation and assistance in the above matter are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rajiv Chawla

Rajiv Chawla, Division Chief
Region I Project Management Division
Engineering & Capital Projects Program
Water and Science Administration

Enclosures

cc: Mehdi Majedi/ECPP

CLEARINGHOUSE NOTIFICATION

The City of Hagerstown has applied for the Water Quality State Revolving Fund (WQSRF) from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for the project described below. The purpose of this notification is to provide Clearinghouse review agencies with advance notification of MDE's intent to provide financial assistance for the project.

PROJECT TITLE: City of Hagerstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

PROJECT #: WQBL/PF-1181-22L

APPLICANT: City of Hagerstown

LOCATION: 1 Clean Water Circle, Hagerstown MD 21740
Washington County

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This multi-phase project involves the rehabilitation and replacement of equipment and structures at the existing 8.0 million gallons per day wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), within the existing plant site. The primary purpose of this project is to upgrade or replace existing equipment that has either reached the end of beneficial life or has experienced complications with plant operations. The city conducted criticality analysis of the WWTP and prioritized the needed improvements based on the likelihood of failure and/or impact of failure.

BUDGET

Total Project Cost:	$	37,731,000
State Revolving Fund Loan:	$	20,000,000
Local Share:	$	17,731,000

SCHEDULE:

Design Initiation:	February 2025
Initiation of Construction:	December 2026
Completion of Construction:	September 2028

PROJECT MAP(s): Attached

CONTACT: For Additional information, please call
Mr. Rajiv Chawla, Division Chief
Region I Project Management Division – Engineering and Capital Projects Program
(410) 537-3770

November 8, 2026
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION
PRELIMINARY DECISION TO GRANT CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE #714)

Project Name/Number:	City of Hagerstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements WQBL/PF-1181-22L
Project Applicant:	City of Hagerstown/Washington County
Project Location/County:	1 Clean Water Circle, Hagerstown/Washington County
Total Project Cost/Loan:	$37,731,000/$20,000,000

Project Description: This multi-phase project involves the rehabilitation and replacement of equipment and structures at the existing 8.0 million gallons per day wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), within the existing plant site. The primary purpose of this project is to upgrade or replace existing equipment that has either reached the end of beneficial life or has experienced complications with plant operations. The city conducted criticality analysis of the WWTP and prioritized the needed improvements based on the likelihood of failure and/or impact of failure.

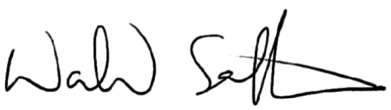
The City of Hagerstown has applied for financial assistance under the Maryland Department of the Environment's State Revolving Loan Fund for the proposed project as described above. In accordance with requirements for complying with the State Environmental Review Procedures (SERP) under COMAR 26.03.11 for such assistance, a review has been performed by the Department on the applicant's request for a Categorical Exclusion from a comprehensive environmental review under SERP. The Department has determined that the proposed project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to COMAR 26.03.11.04 because it involves minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, functional replacement of equipment and structures, and new ancillary facilities that do not increase the capacity of the existing facility and will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. This determination is based upon a careful review of the supporting documentation provided by the applicant and other documents available to the Department. In concert with this preliminary determination, the Department has also found the project to be consistent with the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning policy in accordance with Executive Order 01.01.1992.27, and Maryland's Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy, in accordance with Executive Order 01.01.1998.04.

As a result of the above determination, the applicant will not need to prepare and/or finalize an Environmental Information Document, and the Department is prepared to approve the applicant's request for financial assistance without further environmental review.

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this preliminary decision may be submitted for consideration by writing to:

Mr. Rajiv Chawla, Division Chief
Region I Project Management Division
Engineering and Capital Projects Program
Water and Science Administration
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Written comments should be submitted within 20 days from the date of this notice. After the close of this twenty-day open review period, and upon evaluating any written comments received, the Department will make a final decision.



Walid Saffouri, P.E., Program Administrator
Engineering and Capital Projects Program
Water and Science Administration
Maryland Department of the Environment


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