STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

DARRYL N. BROWN
COMMISSIONER

March 14, 2011

Mr. Dennis Thayer
Wells Sanitary District
P.O. Box 428
Wells, Maine 04090

SUBJECT: Wells Sanitary District
Wastewater Treatment Facility HVAC Upgrade
Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Thayer:

In compliance with Section C of the "State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595" this office has reviewed the environmental aspects of the proposed project for your community. From this review, we have determined that the project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion. We have distributed the Categorical Exclusion to all known interested parties (see attached list).

The District is required to publish a notice indicating the determination in a local newspaper of community-wide circulation. The notice should state that the supporting documentation is available for public inspection. For your convenience, we have included a suggested format for the legal advertisement. Please advertise as soon as possible to allow a 15 day comment period. Once advertised, please send a copy of the advertisement to this office for our records.

Please feel free to call me at 287-4162 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Hefler, P.E.
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc. Determination of Categorical Exclusion
Justification of Categorical Exclusion
Distribution List
Legal Advertisement

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RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR
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BANGOR, MAINE 04401
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PORTLAND
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DETERMINATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO: All Interested Persons

DATE ISSUED: March 14, 2011

As required by Section C of "The State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules" the Department of Environmental Protection staff prepared a "Justification For Categorical Exclusion" on behalf of the:

Wells Sanitary District
Wastewater Treatment Facility HVAC Upgrade Project

to exempt a proposed action from the substantive environmental review requirements.

The proposed project is to replace aging heating and ventilation systems at the wastewater treatment facility to increase the reliability and efficiency of the systems, address code issues, and to reduce odors generated from sludge processing operations.

A review of the proposed action by DEP has indicated that it meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the proposed action is directed solely toward the rehabilitation, minor upgrading and minor expansion of an existing facility and associated structures, and toward the functional replacement of equipment. Moreover, none of the criteria which would result in denial of a Categorical Exclusion are met.

Therefore, I am granting the Categorical Exclusion from substantive environmental review as provided in Section C of the State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if any of the criteria used for its issuance are violated.

Further records in regard to the project are on file and are available for public review at this office and local address indicated on the attached justification. Comments relative to this decision may be submitted to DEP.

John N. True

John N. True P.E., SRF Program Manager
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

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JUSTIFICATION FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. Project Identification

Project Name:	Wells Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Facility HVAC Upgrade Project
Address:	P.O. Box 428 Wells, Maine 04090
Project Location:	197 Eldridge Road Town of Wells, York County (see attached Figure 1)
Project Number:	C230118-07

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Wells Sanitary District has submitted Environmental Review information documents for their proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility HVAC Upgrade Project.
In accordance with State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595, the findings of our environmental review are summarized below.

1. Project Description

The Wells Sanitary District owns and operates a wastewater collection system, seven pump stations, and a treatment facility to treat and dispose of wastewater flows from the Town. The wastewater collection system comprises of approximately 30 miles of underground sanitary sewer gravity pipe and force mains. The treatment facility was constructed in 1977. The treated wastewater is discharged to the Atlantic Ocean at Moody Point.

The proposed work is to replace many of the original heating and ventilation systems within the treatment facility. The systems, which are over thirty years old, are in need of repair because they are becoming much less reliable, they are relatively inefficient, and some systems do not meet current code requirements. Replacement of these systems is expected to result in significant reductions in energy consumption and fuel oil use. The proposed work will also reduce odors generated from sludge processing operations.

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The project plan and funding received approval by the Wells Sanitary District in public meeting on January 27, 2011.

The majority of the proposed work is located within existing treatment facility buildings. Some minor work will occur outside the buildings within the District's property.

The project does not require that any State or Federal environmental permits be obtained.

Construction will begin during 2011 and be completed in 2012. The total cost of the project is estimated at approximately $1,300,000.

2. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

Under section C(5)(b)(i)(AA)(I) of the State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595, the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion from the requirement for a substantive environmental review.

The project is directed solely toward the rehabilitation, minor upgrading and minor expansion of an existing facility and associated structures, and toward the functional replacement of equipment. The projects are not expected to have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment nor are they expected to affect cultural resource areas, endangered or threaten species and their critical habitats, or to affect natural resource areas such as floodplains, wetlands, important farm lands, aquifer recharge zones or their identified resource areas.

Karen L. Hefler, P.E., Project Engineer
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land & Water Quality

3/14/2011
Date

The Following Notice Is To Be Placed In A Local Newspaper Of Community-Wide Circulation.

NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection, has issued a categorical exclusion in compliance with Section C of "The State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595", on behalf of the City of Portland to exempt a proposed action from the substantive environmental review requirements.

The proposed project is to replace aging heating and ventilation systems at the wastewater treatment facility to increase the reliability and efficiency of the systems, to address code issues, and to reduce odors generated from sludge processing operations.

A review of the proposed action by the DEP has indicated that it meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the proposed action is directed solely toward the rehabilitation, minor upgrading and minor expansion of an existing facility and associated structures, and toward the functional replacement of equipment. Moreover, none of the criteria which would result in denial of a Categorical Exclusion are met.

Further records in regard to the project are on file and are available for public review at the Wells Sanitary District office on 197 Eldridge Road, Wells, Maine and the offices of the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality, Division of Water Quality Management, 17 State House Station, (Tyson Building) Augusta, Maine. Comments relative to this decision may be submitted to the District or DEP within fifteen days.

DEP DISTRIBUTION LIST
FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
WELLS SANITARY DISTRICT (3/11)

Natural Resources Council of Maine
3 Wade Street
Augusta, Me 04330

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
Historic Preservation Commission
65 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Paul Schumacher, Executive Director
Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission
21 Bradeen St. Suite 304
Springvale, Maine 04083

Mark McCollough, Endangered Species Specialist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
1168 Main Street
Old Town, ME 04468

Jay Clement
US Army Corps of Engineers
RR 2 Box 1855
Manchester, ME 04351

Maine Emergency Management Agency
72 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0072

Stuart Rose
Dept of Environmental Protection
312 Canco Road
Portland, ME 04103

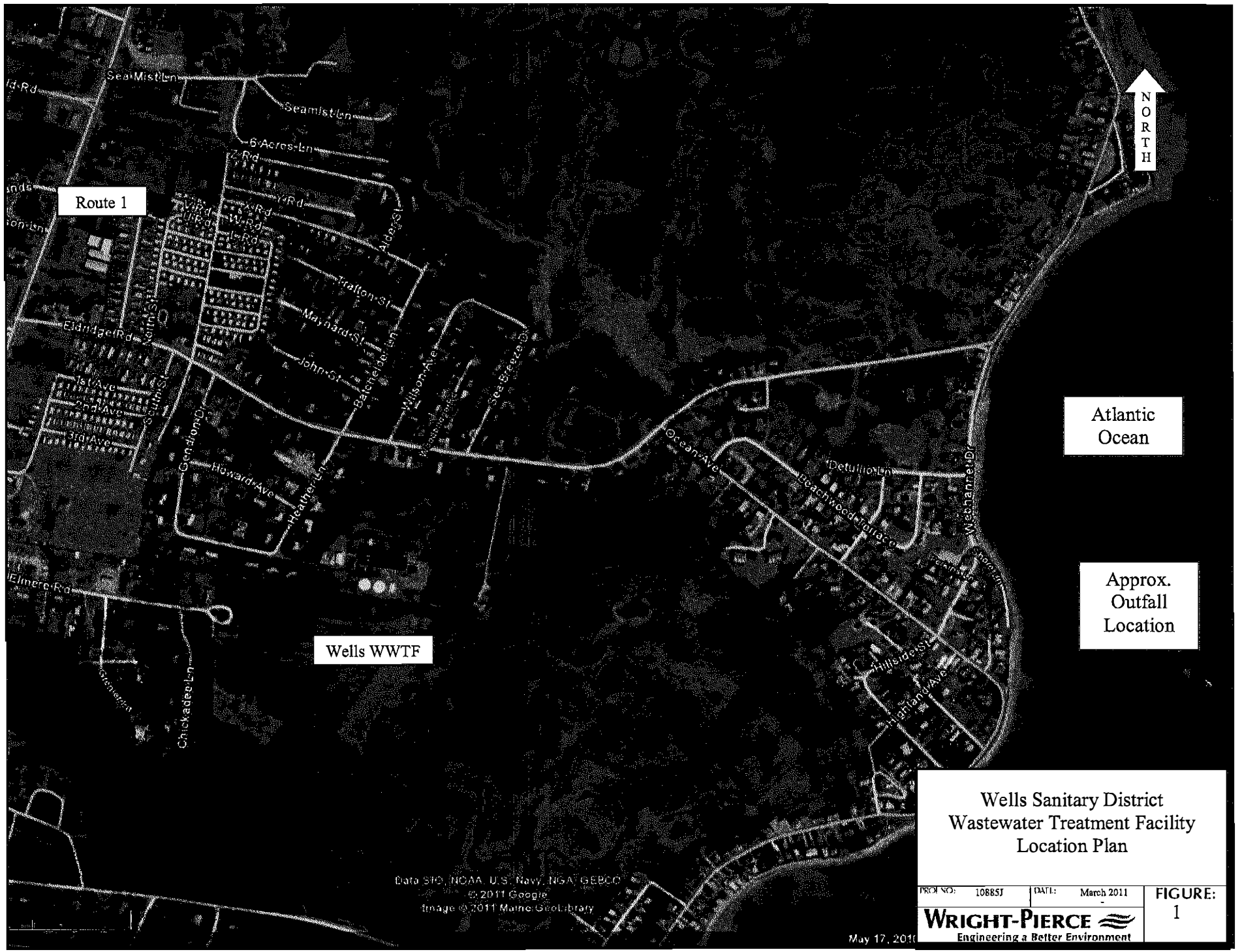
Sue Baker.
Flood Insurance Coordinator
State Planning Office
38 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dennis Thayer, Superintendent
Wells Sanitary District
P.O. Box 428
Wells, ME 04090-0428

Donna Bradstreet
A-95 Review
38 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Steve Timpano
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
41 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Edward Leonard, P.E.
Wright-Pierce
75 Washington St, Suite 202
Portland, ME 04101



Wells Sanitary District
Wastewater Treatment Facility
Location Plan

PROJ NO: 10885J	DATE: March 2011	FIGURE: 1

WRIGHT-PIERCE
Engineering a Better Environment