STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

DARRYL N. BROWN
COMMISSIONER

March 21, 2011

Leland Arris, Jr., General Manager
Freeport Sewer District
154 South Freeport Road
P.O. Box 76
Freeport, Maine 04032

SUBJECT: Freeport Sewer District, Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades
Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Arris:

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 wastewater treatment facility upgrade for your community. From this review, we have determined that the project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion therefore a Finding of No Significant Impact will not be required.

We will have distributed the Categorical Exclusion to all known interested parties (See attached list). The Freeport Sewer District is required to publish a notice indicating the determination in a local newspaper of community-wide circulation stating the supporting documentation is available for public inspection. The exclusion may be revoked at any time if any of the criteria used for its issuance are violated.

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.

Sincerely,

Brandy M. Piers, Project Engineer
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc. Categorical Exclusion
Distribution List
Legal Advertisement

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688FAX: (207) 287-7826
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

web site: www.maine.gov/dep

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DETERMINATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO: All Interested Persons DATE ISSUED: March 21, 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 Freeport Sewer District for the WWTF Upgrade to exempt a proposed action from the substantive environmental review requirements.

The proposed action for the Freeport Sewer District (FSD) Upgrades includes the following process and equipment improvements; effluent thermal project, sludge dewatering and miscellaneous equipment upgrades. An effluent heat recovery and climate control system will be designed and built to replace the present 1970's oil burner heating system. The system will use an effluent heat pump system to recover waste heat for use at the treatment facility. The sludge dewatering system will be modified to reduce noise and odors associated with the process operations. Modification will involve relocating the sludge dewatering process equipment (centrifuge) into a separate interior room within the existing processing area. An energy recovery unit and associated controls and ductwork will also be installed.

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 functional replacement of equipment at the existing facilities.

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., Senior Environmental Engineer
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

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JUSTIFICATION FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades

Address: Freeport Sewer District
154 South Freeport Road
P.O. Box 76
Freeport, ME 04032

Project Location: Town of Freeport
Cumberland County

Project Number: C230116-06

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The contract documents and specifications entitled "Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades" for the Freeport Sewer District have been reviewed, and 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 Freeport Sewer District (FSD) Upgrades include the following process and equipment improvements; effluent thermal project, sludge dewatering and miscellaneous equipment upgrades. An effluent heat recovery and climate control system will be designed and built to replace the present 1970's oil burner heating system. The system will use an effluent heat pump system to recover waste heat for use at the treatment facility. The sludge dewatering system will be modified to reduce noise and odors associated with the process operations. Modification will involve relocating the sludge dewatering process equipment (centrifuge) into a separate interior room within the existing processing area. An energy recovery unit and associated controls and ductwork will also be installed.

The total cost for the project estimated for the Effluent Thermal and Sludge Dewatering Upgrades is $ **225,000.00**.

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2. Justification for Categorical Exclusion

Under section C(5)(i)(AA)(I) of the State of Maine Revolving Loan Fund Rules Chapter 595, the proposed treatment facility upgrade meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion from the requirement for a substantive environmental review . The project upgrade will not provide treatment plant capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population. The project is not expected to have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment nor is it 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.

Brandy M. Piers
Project Engineer
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

3/21/11
Date

DEP DISTRIBUTION LIST
FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS
& FINDINGS OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (9/29/09)

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

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

Dept. of Marine Resources
Hallowell Annex
21 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

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

The proposed action for the Freeport Sewer District (FSD) Upgrades includes the following process and equipment improvements; effluent thermal project, sludge dewatering and miscellaneous equipment upgrades. An effluent heat recovery and climate control system will be designed and built to replace the present 1970's oil burner heating system. The system will use an effluent heat pump system to recover waste heat for use at the treatment facility. The sludge dewatering system will be modified to reduce noise and odors associated with the process operations. Modification will involve relocating the sludge dewatering process equipment (centrifuge) into a separate interior room within the existing processing area. An energy recovery unit and associated controls and ductwork will also be installed.

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 functional replacement of equipment at the existing facilities. 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 the Freeport Sewer District Office, Freeport, Maine and the offices of the Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine. Comments relative to this decision may be submitted to the town or DEP within fifteen days.