Request for Categorical Exclusion
from Substantive Environmental Review (CE)

Instructions:
1. Provide the WIF number for the project for which you are requesting consideration.
2. Fill out the Applicant’s formal name. For a county authority, please specify which county. "County Water District VII" is not a complete name; "ABC County Water District VII" is a complete name.
3. Check all applicable exclusions. Failure to check an applicable exclusion will result in the rejection of your request.
4. Either the "authorized representative" or the Professional Engineer must sign the form. If the Professional Engineer signs the form, the Professional Engineer must seal the form.
5. Submit as part of the ER/EID, following the "Factsheet: Instructions for Applicants Seeking a Federal Categorical Exclusion" available under this webpage: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wi/planning.

WIF No.: WIF1937

Applicant: Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utility Commission

Project Name: Neilson WTP Modernization

Modernization of the Neilson Water Treatment Plant. The Neilson Modernization project will provide improvements to extend the lifetime of the plant to: process equipment, chemical feed and storage systems, operations buildings, wash water and residuals management facilities, and general site layouts. The improvements will have no change to plant rated capacity or permitted effluent.

Project Description

I certify that the project described in the application for state-supplied financial assistance meets all of the applicable general criteria listed in 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (1), and consists solely of activities exempted under the specific criteria of 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2) checked below:

Please check all the exclusion(s) that apply:

☐ Potable water systems including the construction or rehabilitation of wells for water supply purposes with associated groundwater withdrawals of less than 1,000,000 gallons per day where such withdrawals are not expected to cause alterations in established land use patterns, or degradation of groundwater or surface water quality. [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(c)].

Other potable water systems including the following:

☐ Improvements to water treatment plants that involve less than 1,000,000 gallons per day added capacity and total design withdrawal less than one-fifth of the 7-day, 10-year low flow of the contributing stream; [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(i)]

☒ Improvements not intended to add capacity to the facility; [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(ii)]

☐ Installation of waterlines and appurtenances in existing rights-of-way for streets or utilities, or water lines and appurtenances less than five miles in length and having only directional bore stream crossings or no stream crossings; [NCGS. § 113A-12(1) & 15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(iii)]

☐ Construction of water tanks, or booster pumping or secondary or remote disinfection stations; [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(b)(iv)]

☐ Dams less than 25 feet in height and having less than 50 acre-feet or storage capacity [15A NCAC 01C .0408 (2)(h)] (Notes: #1 Dam projects are ineligible for federally recognized CE. #2 Only off-stream raw water reservoirs for pre-treatment purposes are eligible for SRF funding.)
I further certify that the project does not have a significant direct, indirect, cumulative or secondary adverse environmental impact as described in 15A NCAC 01C .0306, and that none of the following descriptions apply to the project:

- the proposed activity may have a potential for significant adverse effects on wetlands; surface waters such as rivers, streams and estuaries; parklands; game lands; prime agricultural or forest lands; or areas of local, state or federally recognized scenic, recreational, archaeological, ecological, scientific research or historical value, including secondary impacts; or would threaten a species identified on the Department of Interior's or the state's threatened and endangered species lists; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (1)] or
- the proposed activity could cause changes in industrial, commercial, residential, agricultural, or silvicultural land use concentrations or distributions which would be expected to create adverse water quality, instream flow, air quality, or ground water impacts; or affect long-term recreational benefits, fish, wildlife, or their natural habitats; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (2)] or
- the proposed activity has secondary impacts, or is part of cumulative impacts, not generally covered in the approval process for the state action, and that may result in a potential risk to human health or the environment; [15A NCAC 01C .0306 (3)].

Therefore, I believe our project is eligible for consideration for a CE from the State's environmental assessment review processes and request that the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) concur with this determination.

I understand that DENR may determine that the proposed activity is of such an unusual nature or has such widespread implications that a concern for its environmental effects has been identified by DENR or expressed to DENR. I understand that, in this case, the activity may be ineligible for CE under 15A NCAC 01C .0306 (4).

☐ We are applying for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan and include the required comment letters. OR
☐ We are not applying for the DWSRF.

____________________________
Joseph R. Shy
Authorized Representative or Engineer Printed Name

[Signature]
18 JUNE 2018
Authorized Representative or Engineer Signature & Date

____________________________
Engineering Manager
Authorized Representative or Engineer Title

State Use Only (Review)

Reviewed by: [Signature]
Date: 9/21/18

Departmental Approval: [Signature]
Date: 9/21/2018
### Required for all Requests for Categorical Exclusion (CEs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross-Cutting Authority</th>
<th>Responsible Agency/Action(s) Taken/Dates Actions Taken</th>
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☑️ Blanket letter from applicant OK?  
☐ Comments from agency OK?  
☐ By "no permits required" comment letter from USACoE  
☐ By sealed & signed "no jurisdiction" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  
☐ By sealed & signed "no permits required" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  
☐ By sealed & signed "all permits in place" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  |
☐ By "no permits required" comment letter from USACoE  
☐ By sealed & signed "no jurisdiction" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  
☐ By sealed & signed "no permits required" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  
☐ By sealed & signed "all permits in place" blanket comment letter from applicant's engineer  |
| Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11990                                           | US Fish & Wildlife Service for signoff  
☐ Comments from USFWS OK  
☑️ By sealed & signed blanket letter from applicant's engineer for project scopes that don't require comments (see factsheet)  
☐ By sealed & signed blanket letter from applicant's engineer after 30 days pass without USFWS comment  |
| Endangered Species Act, Pub. L. 93-205, as amended                                      | DWSRF Funding Unit and the local PWSS Regional Engineer  
Does the project require the assistance of the PWS Section Regional Supervisor to determine possible EJ impacts?  
☐ Yes  ☑️ No  
If yes:  
1. Does the potentially affected community include an EJ community?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
2. Are there significant environmental impacts likely to fall disproportionately on minority and/or low-income members of the community and/or tribal resources?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  |
| Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Pub. L. 85-624, as amended                        | Division of Coastal Management (DCM)  
1. Is this project located in any of the following counties: Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington?  
☐ Yes  ☑️ No  
2. If the answer to question #1 is "Yes", then DCM must find if the project is in an Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) established by the Coastal Resources Commission. Is it in one of these AECs?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
DCM Response Date;  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
3. If the answer to question #2 is "Yes", then the project requires a CAMA permit. Does the project have a CAMA permit?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
CAMA Permit Date;  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Pub. L. 90-542, as amended                                 |  |
| Environmental Justice, Executive Order 12898                                           |  |
| Work on the WTP will benefit the entire system uniformly.  
☐ Yes  ☑️ No  |
| Coastal Barrier Resources Act, Pub. L. 97-348                                          |  |
| Coastal Zone Management Act, Pub. L 92-583, as amended                                 |  |

☐ Signed Request for CE posted on Web? (optional)  
______
June 18, 2018

Vincent Tomaino, PE
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Infrastructure
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604

RE: Blanket Comment from the United States Army Corps of Engineers

To whom it may concern:

I have determined that no US Army Corps of Engineers Permit is required for the proposed project.

Very truly yours,
BLACK & VEATCH

[Signature]

Joseph Ryan Shy, P.E.
Engineering Manager
June 18, 2018

Vincent Tomaino, PE
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Infrastructure
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604

RE: Blanket Comment from the State Historic Preservation Office

To whom it may concern:

The Neilson WTP Modernization Project consists solely of the following components:

1. The placement of equipment within an existing facility's fenceline, including modernization of an existing water treatment plant facility.

Very truly yours,
BLACK & VEATCH

[Signature]
Joseph Ryan Shy, P.E.
Engineering Manager

[Stamp]
June 18, 2018

Vincent Tomaino, PE
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Infrastructure
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604

RE: Blanket Comment from the US Fish and Wildlife Service

To whom it may concern:

The Neilson WTP Modernization Project consists solely of the following components:

1. Additions of equipment in an existing water facility that do not change its permitted influent or effluent.

Very truly yours,
BLACK & VEATCH

Joseph Ryan Shy, P.E.
Engineering Manager