

Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.



IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

September 22, 2020

To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

Applicant: City of Lake Park
County: Dickinson
State: Iowa

SRF Number: CS1920971 01
Iowa DNR Project Number: 2018-0379A

The City of Lake Park, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their wastewater treatment plant. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority.

The City of Lake Park is located in Dickinson County, Iowa approximately 100 northeast miles of Sioux City, Iowa and 13 miles northwest of Spirit Lake, Iowa. The population of Lake Park according to the 2010 US Census was 1,105. The design population equivalent for the year 2042 is 1,299.

The existing wastewater treatment plan (WWTP) is a three-cell facultative lagoon for primary treatment with downstream man-made wetlands for polishing located in the east side of the City. It was constructed in 1995. The WWTP includes a primary cell, a secondary cell, a quiescent cell, and man-made wetlands. After treatment and the wetlands, wastewater flows to the discharge point. Recent change to the discharge permit have reduced the allowed

amount of ammonia, E. coli bacteria and dissolved oxygen; the current facility is unable to meet these new discharge requirements.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to continue to comply with the discharge permit in order to continue to safely and reliably operate the City of Lake Park's wastewater system for at least the next 20 years.

The proposed project includes improvements to the existing aerated lagoon treatment system and the addition of a tertiary treatment process able to reduce ammonia-nitrogen and a new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system to reduce E. coli. The project involves modifications to the existing facultative lagoons infrastructures. A tertiary treatment process will be constructed downstream of the existing lagoon cells to provide enhanced biological nitrification for low-biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) aerated lagoon effluent. The construction of a new UV disinfection system will be constructed within the current wastewater plant.

The treated wastewater from the proposed facility will continue to discharge to the West Branch Little Sioux River, tributary to the Sioux River. The outfall location is not proposed to be altered. Each stream segment in Iowa has a specific designation to protect recreation use and aquatic life. West Branch Little Sioux River is designated Class A2 and Class B(WW2). Class A2 waters are secondary contact recreational use waters in which recreation uses either incidental or accidental contact with water. Waters designated Class B(WW2) are those in which flow or other physical characteristics are capable of supporting a resident aquatic community that includes a variety of native nongame fish and invertebrate species.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. The project will not impact wetlands.

The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes. The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain provided all necessary floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by. The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.

No Historic Properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further

impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c"). The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit comments to the department during this period. Please direct your comments to me at casey.laskowski@dnr.iowa.gov or 515-725-0261.

Sincerely,



Casey Laskowski
Environmental Specialist
502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment
Project Map

Distribution

List (email): Austyn Wolfe, McClure
Erin Pingel, NW Iowa Planning & Development Commission
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality
Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Public Health

Sarah Petersen, Iowa Department of Public Health
Leslie Leager, Iowa Economic Development Authority
Ingrid Gronstal, Iowa Environmental Council
Tracy Scebold, Iowa Finance Authority
Tony Toigo, Iowa Finance Authority
Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
Jane Clark, Sierra Club
Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
Tokey Boswell, USDOJ, National Park Service, Midwest Region
Kraig McPeck, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
Christopher Simmons, USEPA Region VII
Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII
The Dickinson County News

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IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Lake Park
County: Dickinson
State: Iowa

SRF Number: CS1920971 01
Iowa DNR Project Number: 2018-0379A

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Lake Park is located in Dickinson County, Iowa approximately 100 northeast miles of Sioux City, Iowa and 13 miles northwest of Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Population: The population of Lake Park according to the 2010 US Census was 1,105. The design population equivalent for the year 2042 is 1,299.

Current Waste Treatment: The existing wastewater treatment plan (WWTP) is a three-cell facultative lagoon for primary treatment with downstream man-made wetlands for polishing located in the east side of the City. It was constructed in 1995. The WWTP includes a primary cell, a secondary cell, a quiescent cell, and man-made wetlands. After treatment and the wetlands, wastewater flows to the discharge point. Recent change to the discharge permit have reduced the allowed amount of ammonia, E. coli bacteria and dissolved oxygen; the current facility is unable to meet these new discharge requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to continue to comply with the discharge permit in order to continue to safely and reliably operate the City of Lake Park's wastewater system for at least the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project includes improvements to the existing aerated lagoon treatment system and the addition of a tertiary treatment process able to reduce ammonia-nitrogen and a new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system to reduce E. coli. The project involves modifications to the existing facultative lagoons infrastructures. A tertiary treatment process will be constructed downstream of the existing lagoon cells to provide enhanced biological nitrification for low-biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) aerated lagoon effluent. The construction of a new UV disinfection system will be constructed within the current wastewater plant.

Receiving Stream: The treated wastewater from the proposed facility will continue to discharge to the West Branch Little Sioux River, tributary to the Sioux River. The outfall location is not proposed to be altered. Each stream segment in Iowa has a specific designation to protect recreation use and aquatic life. West Branch Little Sioux River is designated Class A2 and Class B(WW2). Class A2 waters are secondary contact recreational use waters in which recreation uses either incidental or accidental contact with water. Waters designated Class B(WW2) are those in which flow or other physical characteristics are capable of supporting a resident aquatic community that includes a variety of native nongame fish and invertebrate species.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: Five alternatives were considered to comply with the new discharge permit limits: regionalization, land application, controlled discharge lagoon, activated sludge, and enhanced treatment aerated lagoon.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: The existing aerated lagoon treatment facility will not likely be able to meet treatment requirements and future ammonia permit limits. Regionalization was deemed impracticable due to the nearest receiving treatment facility not able to accept additional flows. Both land application and controlled discharge lagoon were deemed to be economically inefficient and cost prohibitive. The activated sludge alternative is a viable option, however, the initial and operational capital costs are high. The enhanced treatment aerated lagoon with added tertiary treatment and UV disinfection will be able to meet new discharge limits while limiting costs was selected. This system will be able to cost effectively meet the City's current limits and capacity as well as accommodate future nutrient discharge limits and capacity.

The project site was selected for the availability of land (it is already City-owned), proximity to existing treatment structures, engineering criteria, as well as minimization of the impacts to the environment.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on June 22, 2020 at 7:00PM. The public notice of this hearing was published in The Dickinson County News on May 13, 2020. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups:

The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Water Resources Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Omaha Tribal Council
- Osage Tribal Council
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
- Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
- Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
- Santee Sioux Nation
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Spirit Lake Tribal Council
- Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
- Upper Sioux Tribe
- Winnebago Tribal Council
- Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee

No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. Therefore, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

Historical/Archaeological: The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. The DNR has determined and is awaiting the SHPO concurrence that this undertaking will result in “no historic properties affected” based on the scope of the project, the prior use of the project area, and the impending findings of the Phase IA Archeological Survey conducted on the project property. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

Environmental: According to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division, the proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concurs that the project will not impact wetlands. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 Technical Assistance website consultation determined and Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division agreed that the project will not impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. According to the Iowa DNR Water Resources Section, this project will not impact the 100-year floodplain provided all necessary floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity.

Land Use and Trends: The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. The proposed project is within the present corporate limits of Lake Park in areas zoned residential, commercial, or industrial. No significant farmlands will be impacted. This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Positive environmental effects will be improved treatment of the wastewater from the City of Lake Park, compliance with effluent discharge permit limits, reduced discharge of ammonia and E. coli to the receiving stream, and improved water quality in the receiving stream.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will not impact wetlands.
- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.

- The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain provided all necessary floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- No Historic Properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c").
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
- No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 92.8(1)"b" relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. No adverse effect or significant environmental impact is foreseen at this time.



Casey Laskowski

Environmental Review Specialist

State Revolving Fund

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Lake Park
Section: 27, Township: 100 N, Range: 38 W
Date: 1970
Scale: 1 Inch = 2,000 Feet



North

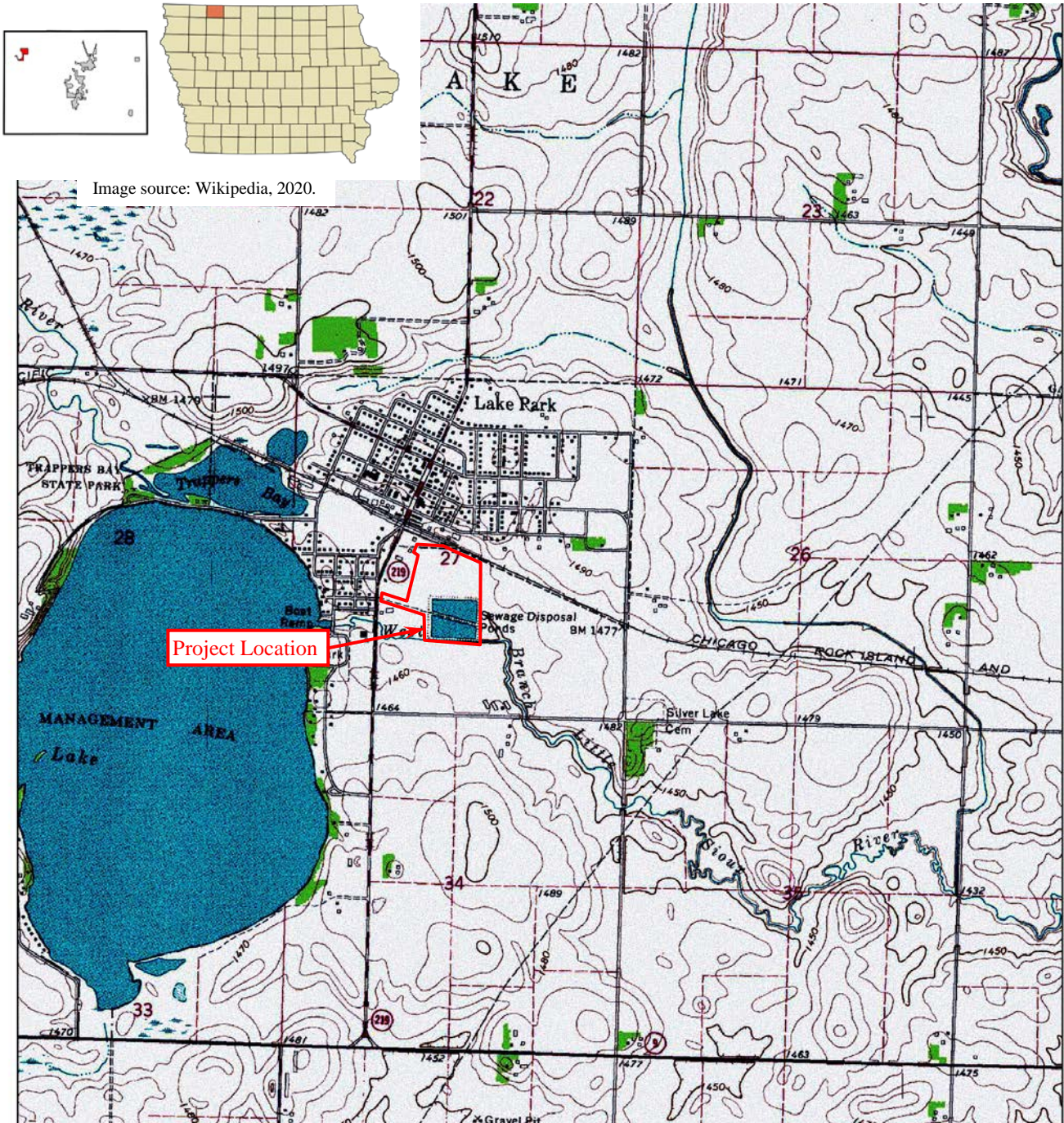


Image source: Wikipedia, 2020.

USGS Topographic Map

Lake Park Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
Lake Park, IA



State Revolving Fund
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Location information provided by McClure Engineering Company



North



Project Location

Aerial Photograph

Lake Park Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
Lake Park, IA



State Revolving Fund
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034