



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

SEP 16 2009

Jacqueline M. Dirmann, P.E.
Bohel Engineering
35 Technology Drive
Warren, NJ 07059

Dear Ms. Dirmann:

This is in response to your June 19, 2009 request for a categorical exclusion (CATEX) from substantive environmental review requirements, pursuant to 40 CFR Part 6, for the City of Rahway's proposed sanitary sewer infiltration and inflow reduction project, to be located in the City of Rahway, Union County, New Jersey.

Portions of the existing antiquated sanitary sewer system are currently subject to substantial infiltration and inflow (I & I), especially during storm events, which overloads the system. The improvements proposed are intended to reduce I & I, minimize overloading of the sanitary sewer during storm events, and significantly reduce the discharges of untreated sewage. Improvements planned as part of this project include: mechanical rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewer pumps so they can operate up to their original design flow; installation of an additional sewer line alongside an existing line within the Dock Street Roadway to prevent ongoing flow restriction; disconnection of the storm water system from the sanitary sewer system at an existing 1-acre parking lot at the corner of Main Street and East Cherry Street; installation of flow monitoring devices city-wide to monitor the existing flows in the sanitary sewer system; and as a city-wide I & I study to determine and disconnect and sources of any inflow to the system.

The project meets the CATEX eligibility criteria found in 6.204(a)(1)(ii). This category includes "actions relating to existing infrastructure systems (such as sewer systems, drinking water supply systems, and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) that involve ... rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) or construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities."

This project does not involve a new or relocated discharge to surface or ground water, an increase in the volume or loading of pollutants to receiving water, or capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population. Further, it is not contrary to any state or regional growth plan or strategy; and it is not primarily for the purpose of future development.

Additionally, the available information you provided concerning the proposed action indicates that none of the specific criteria for not granting a CATEX, found in 40 CFR 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10), are present.

Based on our review, EPA approves the request for the CATEX. Please be reminded that EPA may revoke this CATEX if any of the following conditions occur:

- changes in the proposed action render it ineligible for exclusion,
- new evidence indicates that serious local or environmental issues exist, or
- federal, state, or local laws would be violated.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please address them to Grace Musumeci, Chief, Environmental Review Section, at the above address. Please note that this CATEX will be made available on EPA Region 2's website at <http://www.epa.gov/region02/spmm/r2nepa.htm>.

Sincerely,



George Pavlou
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: P. Pellissier, City of Rahway