



## State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

### PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**CITY OF PORTLAND  
WWTP EXPANSION PHASE I  
SRF Project WW 16 21 38 03**

**Date: October 11, 2016**

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Portland's Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

*How were environmental issues considered?*

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

*Why is additional environmental review not required?*

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

*How do I submit comments?*

Comments can be submitted to:

April Douglas  
Senior Environmental Manager  
SRF Programs  
317-234-7294  
adouglas@ifa.in.gov

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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:                   WWTP Expansion Phase 1  
  City of Portland  
  312 North Meridian Street  
  Portland, IN 47371

SRF Project Number:                       **WW 16 21 38 03**

Authorized Representative:               Mayor Randy Geesaman

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located in Jay County, Wayne township, Portland USGS Quadrangle, township 23 North, range 14 E and section 29. See Figure 1.

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

Over the past few years, Portland has incurred problems meeting their NPDES discharge permit limits for ammonia-nitrogen, total suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, E. coli, and chlorine. Portland entered into an agreed order with IDEM in February 2016, which requires improvements at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) as needed to meet discharge permit limits. The proposed WWTP expansion project will bring Portland into compliance with their discharge permit, and at the same time will allow compliance with their CSO long term control plan.

The project will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1 will allow bypass of the inadequate trickling filters and tertiary filters after constructing two new final clarifiers, making hydraulic improvements to the primary tank splitter, and converting the final settling tank into additional aeration tanks. The Phase 1 components will be sized to meet the design criteria for future conditions. Phase 2 will be constructed in approximately five years, and will provide the remaining components needed to increase the plant's peak rating from 3.4 MGD to 5.7 MGD. The attached figure shows Phase 1 only.

### IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

The Phase 1 project is estimated to cost approximately \$3,300,000. The City of Portland will finance the project with a loan from the SRF Loan Program for a 20-year term at an annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

### V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in

or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

## **VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A properly noticed public hearing was held on August 17, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the City Council Chambers, Portland Fire Station at 1616 North Franklin Street, Portland, IN 47371. There was a question regarding phasing on this project during the hearing. Phasing is going to be implemented to keep rate increases at a manageable level. No written comments were received in the five day period following the hearing for this project.

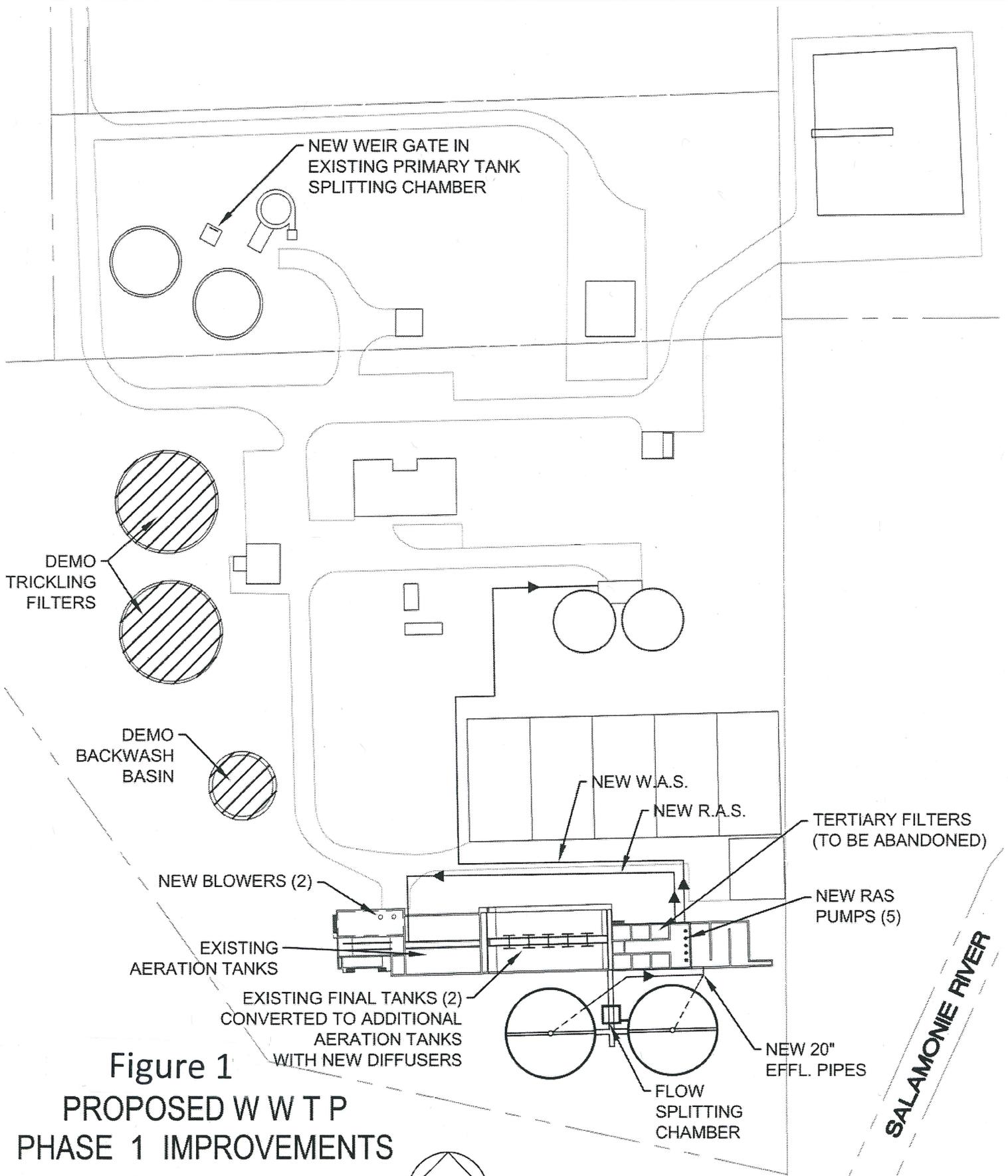
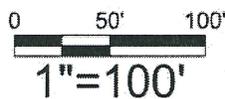


Figure 1

PROPOSED W W T P  
PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS

PORTLAND, INDIANA  
OCTOBER 6, 2016



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