



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Clean Water, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

CITY OF ROCKPORT LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS SRF Project DW 25 15 74 00

Date: April 1, 2026

Pursuant to IC 5-1.2-3, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Rockport's Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion (CE) 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. In the absence of significant comments, the attached CE shall serve as the final environmental document.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

State Revolving Fund
100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204
publiccomments@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Lead Service Line Replacements
 City of Rockport
 PO Box 151
 Rockport, IN 47635

SRF Project Number: **DW 25 15 74 00**

Authorized Representative: Cathy Kirkpatrick, Mayor

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in Spencer County, Rockport Township, Rockport 24k USGS Quadrangle, Township 7S, Range 6W, and Sections 22, 23, 26, and 27. See **Figure 1**.

III. PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

An initial lead service line inventory was completed for the City of Rockport. Given the presence of lead, galvanized requiring replacement, and unknown service lines, it is imperative that the City of Rockport replace their service lines for the health and safety of their customers.

The City of Rockport plans to replace service lines on both the private and public side of the service line to premise plumbing. Phase 1 of the LSLR replaces the highest priority service lines and investigates unknown service lines in the high and medium priority groups. Other service lines identified as lead or galvanized during potholing will be replaced as part of the project as well. The City also proposes to replace water meters which have reached or exceeded their useful life.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY, AND FUNDING

The total cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$2,060,000. The City intends to finance the project with a loan from the Drinking Water SRF Loan Program for a term and 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

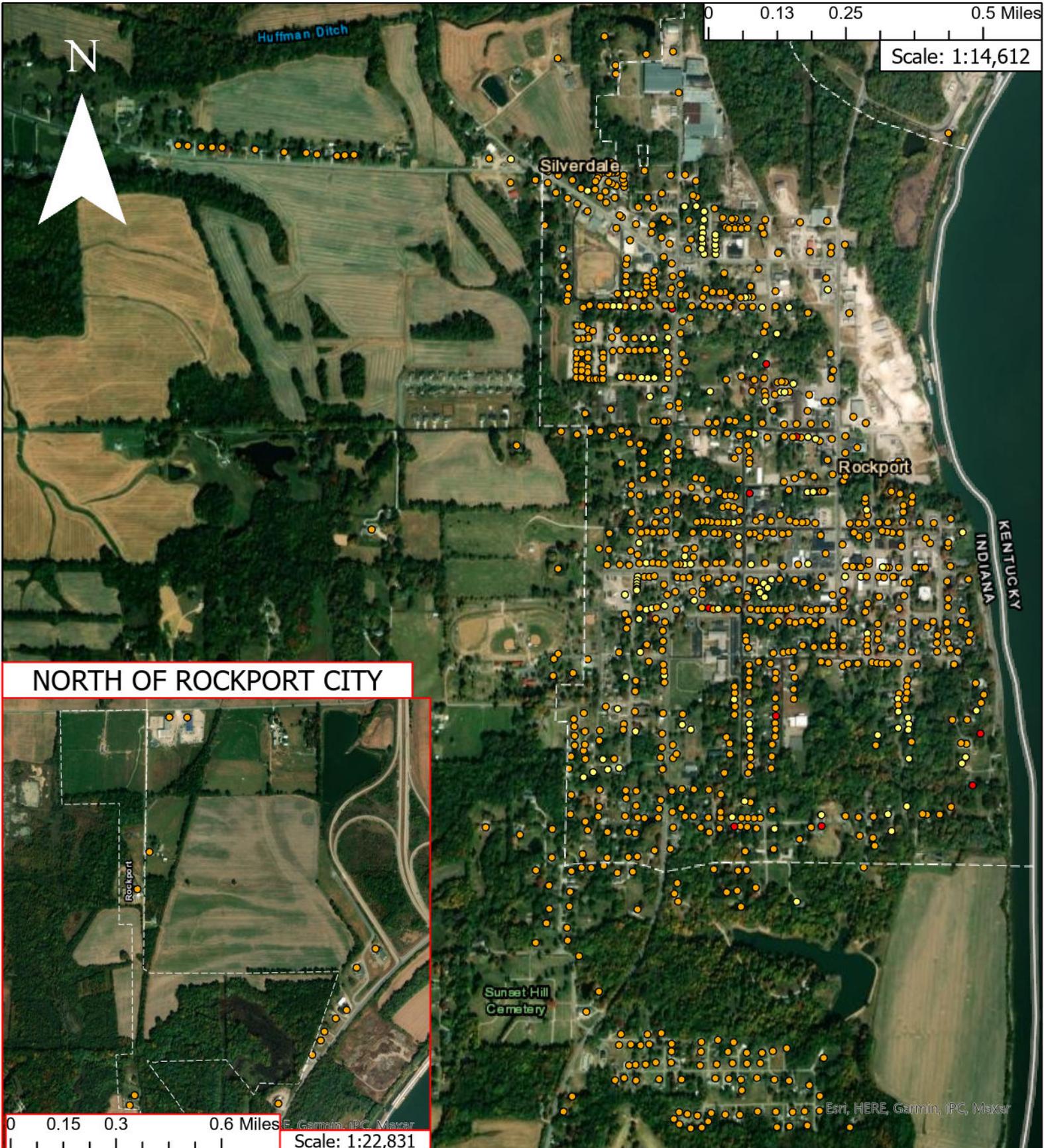
The environmental impacts will be minimal. All project activities will take place in areas previously disturbed by lead service line replacements. The proposed project will not affect streams, floodplains, wetlands, wooded areas, or other sensitive environmental resources and will not convert prime farmland.

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 May 8, 2025, at 5 pm at the City Hall, 426 Main Street, Rockport, IN 47635. There were no questions about this project during the hearing. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing for this project.



LEGEND

PRIORITY

- HIGHEST (10)
- HIGH (877)
- MEDIUM (109)

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**CITY OF ROCKPORT
FIGURE 1
RECOMMENDED
REPLACEMENTS
SPENCER COUNTY,
INDIANA**