



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

May 22, 2020

Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact

**Village of Perrysville – Ashland County
Perrysville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Phase 1
Loan number: CS390749-0007**

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a wastewater treatment plant improvements project in Perrysville which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency intends to finance through its Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) below-market interest rate revolving loan program. The LER describes the project, its costs, and expected environmental benefits. Making available this LER fulfills Ohio EPA's environmental review and public notice requirements for this loan program.

Ohio EPA analyzes environmental effects of proposed projects as part of its WPCLF program review and approval process. We have concluded that the proposed project should not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. This project's relatively narrow scope and lack of environmental impacts qualifies it for the LER rather than a more comprehensive Environmental Assessment. More information can be obtained by calling or writing the person named at the end of the attached LER.

Upon issuance of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) determination, award of funds may proceed without further environmental review or public comment unless new information shows that environmental conditions of the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Bernstein, Assistant Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

Attachment

LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project Identification

Project: Perrysville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Phase 1

Applicant: Heather Mullinnex, Mayor
Village of Perrysville
P.O. Box 250
Perrysville, OH 44864

Loan Number: CS390749-0007

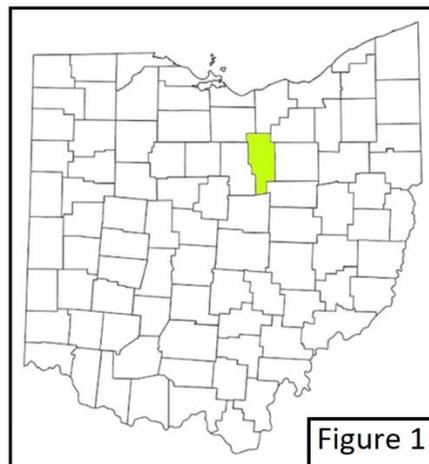
Project Summary

The Village of Perrysville has applied to Ohio EPA Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) for a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) loan for their Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Phase 1 project. Perrysville has requested to borrow approximately \$1,124,000 to pay for improvements to the Perrysville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). This project involves the construction of new aeration tanks, demolition of old aeration tanks, construction of a new blower building, replacement of clarifier equipment, and replacement of a manual bar screen with an automatic bar screen.

History & Existing Conditions

The Village of Perrysville is a small community located in southern Ashland County (Figure 1), along the Black Fork Mohican River. The population census as of 2010 was 735 people, declined from 816 people in 2000, and with a continued decline trend to the present. No additional wastewater treatment capacity would be needed due to this decline in residential population.

The Perrysville Wastewater Treatment Plant and collection system is owned, operated, and maintained by the Village. The Perrysville facility discharges treated wastewater into the Black Fork Mohican River (See figure 2 for location of WWTP). The original WWTP is an oxidation ditch style plant built in 1976, with the latest improvements adding a mechanical screen and new sludge drying beds in 2003. The design peak daily flow is currently 0.415 million gallons per day (MGD), with an average daily design flow of 0.1245 MGD. The Village of Perrysville collects about 56,000 gallons per day (GPD) itself, as well as accepting 30,500 GPD from Pleasant Hill Lake Park, with an additional hydraulic capacity 38,000 GPD.



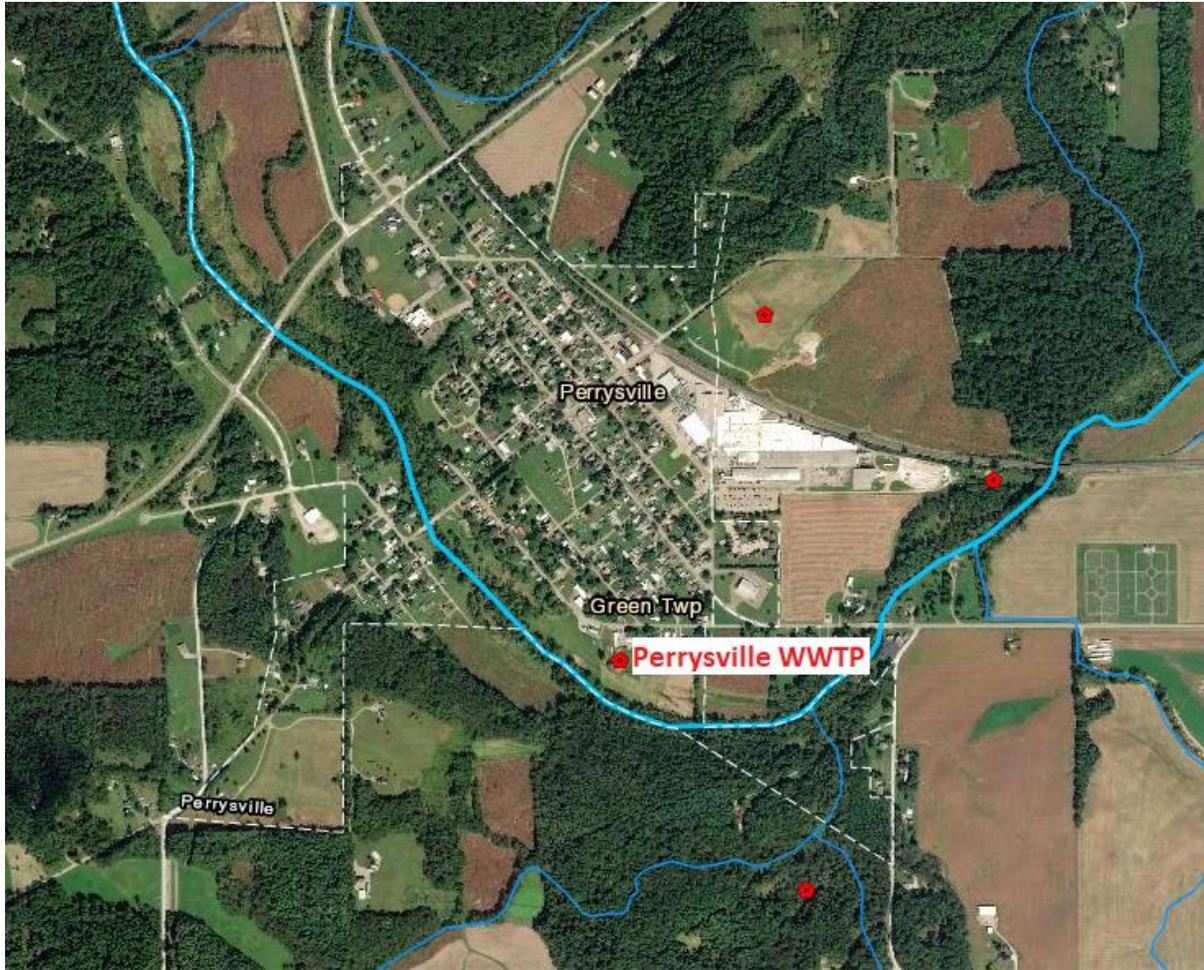


Figure 2. Location of Perrysville WWTP marked in red on the south side of Perrysville, adjacent to the Black Fork Mohican River.

At the WWTP, the headworks comminutor is currently out of service and the manual bar screen has a 1.5-inch width that does not efficiently capture materials. OEPA requires 5/8-inch screening of material that is destined to be land applied sludge. Currently, the oxidation ditch tank concrete is cracked and requires repair. The existing splitter between the two tanks is set up in a way that encourages corrosion within the enclosed splitter box. Cage-style rotors within the current oxidation ditches are inefficient and aging. The final clarifiers are rim-feed systems that are outdated and not as efficient as central-feed style design.

Project Description

The Village of Perrysville is making improvements to their WWTP as the first phase of a two-phase set of WWTP improvements. This phase of the project involves three major improvements, described below.

1. *New Mechanical Bar Screen* – The old manual 1.5-inch bar screen will be replaced with a 5/8-inch automated bar screen.

Implementation

Project Costs

Perrysville will borrow approximately \$1,124,000 from WPCLF, combined with a \$500,000 grant from Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for a total project cost of \$1,624,000. The Village qualifies for a 0% hardship interest rate. During the 20-year loan period, Perrysville will save approximately \$293,000 by using WPCLF dollars at this rate, compared to the market rate of 2.37%.

Local Economy

Sewer rate increases of 3% per year will be implemented in 2020, 2021, and 2022 to repay the loan and allow continued maintenance and improvement of these services. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, the estimated median household income (MHI) for a resident of Perrysville is \$32,366. With the most recent water and sewer rate increase, the average yearly water and sewer costs amount to \$437/year, which is 1.3% of the MHI and is generally considered affordable.

Project Schedule

Anticipating loan award in June 2020, construction will be complete by February 2021.

Public Participation

Public council meetings have been held discussing the project over the past two years, and meeting minutes are posted to Perrysville's website. A consumer confidence report is available on the public website as well.

Conclusion

The proposed project meets the project type criteria for a Limited Environmental Review (LER); namely, it is an action within an existing wastewater treatment system, which involves the functional replacement of and improvements to existing mechanical equipment at the WWTP. Furthermore, the project meets the other qualifying criteria for an LER; specifically, the proposed project:

Will have no significant environmental effect, no effect on high-value environmental resources, and will require no specific impact mitigation because there are no high-value, unique, or ecologically valuable resources in the project area. The project area is in designated wastewater treatment plant land that has already been disturbed, re-graded, and disturbed. Silt erosion control measures will be put in place by the contractor to prevent stormwater runoff from entering the Black Fork Mohican River. Construction and demolition debris (C&DD) and excavated waste will be disposed of in an Ohio EPA approved landfill.

Is cost-effective and not controversial - The proposed project is cost-effective because many of the components of the WWTP are failing and deteriorated past their useful life. Taking no action would result in wastewater treatment failure and risk to human and environmental health. The Ohio EPA is unaware of any opposition to this project.

Does not create a new, or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters, or substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters because the improvements to the WWTP are replacing

existing structures and making improvements to plant operations. No new flows will be added to the treatment plant, and no new discharges will be created because of this project.

Will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population because equipment replacements and improvements will not significantly expand treatment capacity, nor is growth expected in this village.

The planning activities for the project have identified no potentially significant adverse impacts. The project is expected to have no significant short-term or long-term adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment or on sensitive resources (surface waters, coastal zones, floodplains, wetlands, state-designated scenic or recreational rivers, prime or unique agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, archaeologically or historically significant sites, threatened or endangered species, or state and federal wildlife areas).

Contact information

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