

Categorical Exclusion

North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure

Project Applicant: *Town of Hamilton*
Date: *July 31, 2026*
Project Name: *Water system Improvements*
Project Number: *SRF-D-2078*
Estimated Project Cost: *\$2,055,239*
Estimated Funding Amount: *\$2,014,940*

Project Description: This project replaces aged and deteriorating infrastructure by abandoning small existing mains, removing 6-inch ACP line, and installing approximately 11,700 linear feet of new 6-inch PVC and restrained-joint piping. Additional construction includes a 12-inch steel casing installed via jack and bore, new gate valves, flushing hydrants, and replacement of existing fire hydrants. Approximately forty-five customer service connections will be transferred to the new mains to complete the system upgrade.

The above-named applicant will receive funding assistance from the State Revolving Fund. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Infrastructure (**Division**) has conducted a review of the project in accordance with the NCGS §159G-38. The Division has determined that this project is below the minor construction activities threshold outlined in the 15A NCAC 01C .0408; therefore, the project is exempt from inter-agency review, and the preparation of additional environmental documents is not required.

This determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Division and will be available on the Division's website (<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/division-water-infrastructure/environmental-documents>). This determination can be revoked at any time adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision will be on file with the Division, and is available for public scrutiny upon request.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed in writing to Ms. Stephanie Suter, Deputy Director, Division of Water Infrastructure, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 1633 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699. Alternatively, she can be reached via telephone at 919.707.9044 or via e-mail at stephanie.suter@deq.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Renee Parkman

Renee Parkman, P.E., Supervisor
Drinking Water Projects Unit
Division of Water Infrastructure