



REVISED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies and Public Groups

Revisions were requested by the Village of Lindsay which are summarized as follows:

1. Switch from a 20 year term to a 30 year term for the proposed DWSRF loan.
2. Remove the emergency use only restriction for Well No. 83-1 since tested nitrate values have fallen below the 10 mg/l maximum contaminant level.
3. Revise wording that the Village no longer fluoridates their finish drinking water.

This revised information was inserted in ***bold italics*** into the original Finding of No Significant Impact, signed by the NDEQ Director on February 6th, 2018 and reissued as revised.

PROJECT NAME: Water Tower Replacement and Distribution System Improvements
Village of Lindsay, Nebraska

DWSRF PROJECT NUMBER: D311618

PROPOSED PROJECT TOTAL: \$1,650,500

PROPOSED DWSRF LOAN AMOUNT: \$1,320,400

PROPOSED 20% DWSRF LOAN FORGIVENESS AMOUNT: \$330,100

The Village of Lindsay has applied for funding for the above-referenced project through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program jointly administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ). This project has been ranked at 90 points and was included on the Planning List in the DWSRF State Fiscal Year 2018 Intended Use Plan. Loan and loan forgiveness funding can be provided for the project in accordance with the Intended Use Plan's listed bypass criteria, as the bypass date of January 1, 2018 has passed.

Lindsay is located in northeastern part of Nebraska, situated in Platte County. The community has a population of 255 according to the 2010 census, which has slightly decreased over the past decade. Lindsay has been issued a permit to operate a public water system (PWS) under the provisions of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act and the Regulations Governing Public Water Supply Systems, Title 179.

In May 2017, the Village's Engineer completed a Preliminary Engineering Reports (PER) that evaluated Lindsay's water system needs. The PWS consists of three municipal wells, an elevated 50,000 gallon water storage tower, and a distribution system. The existing 50,000 gallon tower was constructed in 1928 and was inspected by Maguire Iron in 2015 and found

that the center riser pipe insulation package was beginning to collapse. The Engineer has recommended replacement since the tower is undersized and 90 years old. The proposed replacement tower will be constructed adjacent to the existing tower. Distribution system improvements are also proposed to upgrade existing four inch mains to six inch diameter mains. Approximately 3,680 linear feet along 1st Street from Ash to Maple and north to 2nd Street will be replaced. The Village's three supply wells, (primary Wells No. 89-1 and 2013-1, and backup Well No. 83-1) were reviewed and deemed adequate. All wells have the capacity of approximately 500 gallons per minute (gpm).

Based upon information from the Engineer's PER, it was recommended that the Village proceed with a tower replacement project and distribution system improvements. The tower will be sized at a 100,000 gallon capacity and placed directly south of the existing tower. The existing tower will be demolished after the new tank is constructed and put into to service. The new tower will provide a minimum service pressure to the entire Village of 30 to 60 pounds per square inch (psi). The Village's projected daily average water use for a 20 year design horizon is 76,440 gallons per day (gpd). Lindsay Manufacturing's 20 year projected daily average is 60,000 gpd for a combined total of 136,440 gpd. Typical municipal storage design values are a one day average water use. The Engineer presented both 100,000 gallon and 150,000 gallon tank size cost estimates to the community and the Village selected the 100,000 gallon alternative.

The proposed project was reviewed by numerous Federal and State agencies for environmental impacts. The majority of responses indicated that the project had no effect or had no objections. A portion of the water main replacement lies in the 100 year flood plain, a flood plain construction permit will be required from the Village. A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction Stormwater permit will be required by NDEQ if more than one acre of land is disturbed. The Lindsay's public water system last underwent a routine sanitary survey by DHHS in September of 2016, wherein no deficiencies were noted. That completed survey is the first step of the Technical, Financial, and Managerial (TFM) program policy. The Village will still be required to undergo an Initial, and if necessary, a Final TFM Assessment by the DHHS, to ensure that their capabilities meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Lindsay's current Environmental Tracking Tool score is 0, below the allowable 11 per issued U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance.

The Village is eligible for a **30-year loan** at an interest rate of 2 percent. In addition to principal and interest payments, an administrative fee of 0.78 percent of the loan balance will be assessed each year. The projected annual DWSRF Debt Service (including 10% coverage) from the loan would be **\$75,877**. Currently, the average bill for a residential water service is \$11.00 per month for typical 8,000 gallon per monthly use. The revenues from Lindsay's water utility will be dedicated to repay the loan. Based on 161 active service connections, monthly household rates may need to be raised **\$19.60** to address the new debt service assuming the industrial customers will pick up an equivalent share for their portion of water used at the commercial and industrial water rates. A final assessment of revenues and costs will determine what rate adjustments are necessary.

A Public Meeting was held December 20, 2017, with 35 days advanced posted notice. A presentation of the proposed project was made by the Village's Engineer, including the alternatives considered and project cost with the associated funding available. Board members had questions on the technical elements of the plan. The impacts to user rates was presented by the Engineer. All questions and concerns were addressed. This meeting satisfies the public participation requirements of Title 131 for DWSRF funds.

The proposed project is determined by Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health to help the public water system maintain compliance. The infrastructure investment in a replacement tower is in line with the stated goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Infrastructure Sustainability Policy. No significant environmental impacts have been identified that would result from the proposed action. All necessary permits for construction will be obtained from the appropriate agencies (i.e., Flood Plain, NDEQ, etc.), if necessary. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

This action is taken on the basis of a careful review of the environmental assessment, the Preliminary Design Memorandum and other supporting data that are on file with NDEQ. The latter are available for public review upon request and the environmental assessment is attached. The NDEQ will not take any administrative action on the project for at least 30 calendar days from the date shown below. Persons having a comment on this determination are encouraged to submit directly to Steve McNulty @ 402 471-1006 or email steve.mculty@nebraska.gov of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, or Tom Fuenning @ 402 471-4989 or email tom.fuenning@nebraska.gov of the Water Permits Division of NDEQ.

Signed this 20th day of February, 2018.

Sincerely,



Jim Macy
Director

Attachments: Environmental Assessment
Distribution List
Map

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

A. Project Identification:

Applicant: Village of Lindsay
Project No.: D311618
Village: Lindsay **County:** Platte **State:** NE
Project Total \$1,650,500
DWSRF Loan: \$1,320,400
DWSRF Loan Forgiveness \$330,100

B. Community Description:

Location: The Village of Lindsay is located in eastern Nebraska, to the northwest of the City of Columbus.

Population: The 2010 census population of Lindsay is 255.

Current Water System Facilities: The Village's public water system (PWS) consists of three municipal wells, an elevated 50,000 gallon water storage tower, and a distribution system. The Village's primary Wells No. 89-1 and 2013-1 have a capacity of 500 gallons per minute and is in operable condition. *Lindsay's backup Well No. 83-1 has a similar pumping capacity and is no longer on emergency use only as nitrate levels have dropped. The Village no longer fluoridates their drinking water.* A 2015 inspection report of the tower recommended to plan for an interior renovation and noted that the center riser pipe insulation package was beginning to collapse. The majority of the distribution system was constructed in 1938 with 40% of the system comprised of pipe sized at 4 inches or less.

C. Project Description: A replacement water tower with a 100,000 gallon capacity and distribution system improvements through replacement of 4 inch with 6 inch and looping of water mains will be constructed.

D. Alternatives Considered:

Three potential tower sites were studied looking at both a 150,000 gallon and 100,000 gallon water tower.

Evaluation and Selection of the Alternative: The Village Engineer's hydraulic analysis of the system showed that the existing 50,000 gallon tower is much less than the current 123,258 gallon average day demand for the Village.

Based upon that information it was recommended that the Village proceed with a replacement tower project and distribution system improvements through replacement

and looping of water mains. The tower will be sized at a 100,000 gallon capacity and placed at an elevation to provide a minimum 30 to 60 psi service pressure to the entire Village.

An alternative evaluated was the construction of a 150,000 gallon capacity tower but the Board selected the 100,000 gallon capacity.

E. Environmental Impact Summary:

Primary:

Construction: Temporary impacts caused by construction include noise and dust, a limited potential for soil erosion, and fuel/oil spills. Review and approval for a construction permit will be required from the Engineering Services Program of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Environmental: The construction contracts will require that the contractors return the area to its original or better condition. The new tower will occupy a very small area of land (~1 acre) and will have little, if any affect on area species. All of the land area to be disturbed during construction will be Village owned, or within established right-of-way. Based on a review of the available mapping, a small portion of the water main replacement lies within the 100-year flood plain. A flood plain construction permit will be necessary from the flood plain administrator for the Village.

The proposed project was reviewed by numerous Federal and State agencies for environmental impacts. The majority of responses indicated that the project had no effect. The Nebraska State Historical Society noted that the project will have no effect for archeological, architectural, or historic properties.

Financial: An application for a DWSRF loan has been received to fund the system improvements. The Village is eligible for a **30-year loan** with an interest rate of 2% plus an administrative fee of 0.78% on the outstanding principal balance assessed annually. Therefore, the projected annual DWSRF Debt Service (including 10% coverage) is estimated at **\$75,877**. The revenues from Village's water utility will be dedicated to repay the loan. Currently, the average bill for a residential water service is \$11.00 per month for typical 8,000 gallon per monthly use. Based on 161 active service connections, monthly household rates may need to be raised **\$19.60** to address the new debt service. A final assessment of revenues and costs will determine what rate adjustments are necessary.

Secondary:

Population Impacts: The replacement tower and water main improvements are not primarily needed for future growth, but rather to meet the needs of current service connections.

Land Use and Trends: The location of the proposed replacement tower is south of the existing water tower. The tower site will take up little land in an area already owned by the Village. In addition, all new water mains will be placed in existing street right of way and will only temporarily detour traffic during construction.

Environmental: The proposed project will have no effect on the availability of water quantity in the area. The minimal amount of solid waste generated by the project will be disposed in a licensed landfill. No safety, vibration, noise or aesthetic considerations were identified other than the normal noise and disruptions associated with building and water main construction.

Environmental Justice: The proposed project will not produce any environmental justice concerns. All improvements will be placed in areas previously disturbed, on Village owned property or within the right-of-way, and the services provided by the proposed project will be available to everyone in Lindsay, equally. No segment of the community's population is impacted disproportionately from related effects.

Mitigation measures necessary to eliminate adverse environmental effect:

Proper construction techniques will be utilized to minimize soil erosion and other potential impacts of construction. Traffic flow may be affected by construction when water main construction is being done along the Village road right-of-ways; however, safety control measures (i.e., signs, etc.) will be implemented. An NPDES Construction Stormwater permit for runoff associated with construction activity and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan will be required by NDEQ for this project if more than one acre of land is disturbed. The Community can designate the General Contractor as the authorized representative on the stormwater permit notice of intent submitted to the NDEQ. Authorization of stormwater runoff from the construction activity must be in place prior to commencing construction.

Irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources: The resources committed to the project include the equipment, materials and energy used in construction.

F. Measures Taken to Insure Environmental Soundness:

Public Involvement: A Public Meeting was held December 20, 2017, with 35 days advanced posted notice. A presentation of the proposed project was made by the Village's Engineer, including the alternatives considered and project cost with the associated funding available.

Public Opposition or Opinions: Those residents in attendance posed numerous questions regarding the project need, scope and location, the subsequent cost and impacts to user rates. All questions and concerns were addressed. This meeting satisfies the public participation requirements of Title 131 for a commitment of DWSRF funds.

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups:

Facility Planning: Village of Lindsay Preliminary Design Report, March 2012, 2017 Water System Evaluation Update, May 2017, JEO Consulting Group

Federal: Corps of Engineers, November 14, 2017, letter
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, November 13, 2017, email
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, December 19, 2017, email

State: Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, November 29, 2017, letter
Nebraska State Historical Society, November 14, 2017, letter
Nebraska Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, November 17, 2017 email
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, October 7, 2016, Routine Sanitary Survey

Local:

Consulting Engineers: JEO Consulting Group, Norfolk, NE

Public Groups: Village of Lindsay Residents

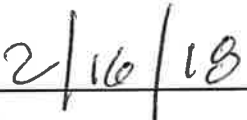
G. Positive Effects to be Realized from the Proposed Project: The project will allow Lindsay to maintain compliance with the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act and ensure future water availability. The tower project achieves the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Infrastructure Sustainability Policy for the upgrade and/or replacement of existing infrastructure. As such, the project is considered reasonable, not contrary to conservation or the public welfare and is a

beneficial use of resources by the Village of Lindsay. The public water system improvements identified in the 2017 Water System Evaluation are fundable under the DWSRF as they are needed to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

- H. **Reasons for Concluding there will be no Significant Impacts:** Review of the design memorandum and supporting information indicates that the proposed project will result in no significant impact on the environment. Federal and State agencies reported no impact will result to threatened and endangered species, the floodplain, historical, or groundwater resources. All permits for construction will be obtained from the appropriate agencies (i.e., flood plain, NDEQ, etc.), if necessary.



Reviewing Engineer



Date

**FNSI DISTRIBUTION LIST
LINDSAY, NEBRASKA**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Mitch Paine
P.O. Box 94676
Lincoln, NE 68509-4676

NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION
Schuyler Sampson/Carey Grell
P.O. Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

**DIRECTOR, NEBRASKA STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
P.O. Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68508-2554

STATE OFFICE OF POLICY RESEARCH
Policy Advisor
Rm. 1319, State Capitol
PO Box 94601
Lincoln, NE 68509-4601

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Abigail Anderson
P.O. Box 94666
Lincoln, NE 68509

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Jeff Runge
203 West Second Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**
Steve McNulty
P.O. Box 95026
Lincoln, NE 68509-5026

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Sarah Pedrick
Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
Nebraska Regulatory Office
8901 South 154th Street, Suite 1
Omaha, NE 68138-3635

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Nick Chevance, Environmental Coordinator
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Ken Shaw
Room 308, Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Chris Simmons/Kelly Beard-Tittone
11201 Renner Blvd
Mail Code: WWPDWIMB
Lenexa, KS 66219

STATE CONSERVATIONIST
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Federal Building, Room 345
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

APPLICANT:
David Albracht, Board Chairman
Village of Lindsay
PO Box 66
Lindsay, NE 68644-0066

CONSULTING ENGINEERS:
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.
Dale Bohac, P.E.
PO Box 1424
Norfolk, NE 68702

LOCAL NEWSPAPER
The Humphrey Democrat
PO Box 158
Humphrey, NE 68642-0158

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES
DISTRICT**
PO Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066-0126

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Kandi Bremer
Division of Aeronautics
3431 Aviation Road, Suite 150
Lincoln, NE 68524

Figure 5-1: Water Tower Site Alternatives

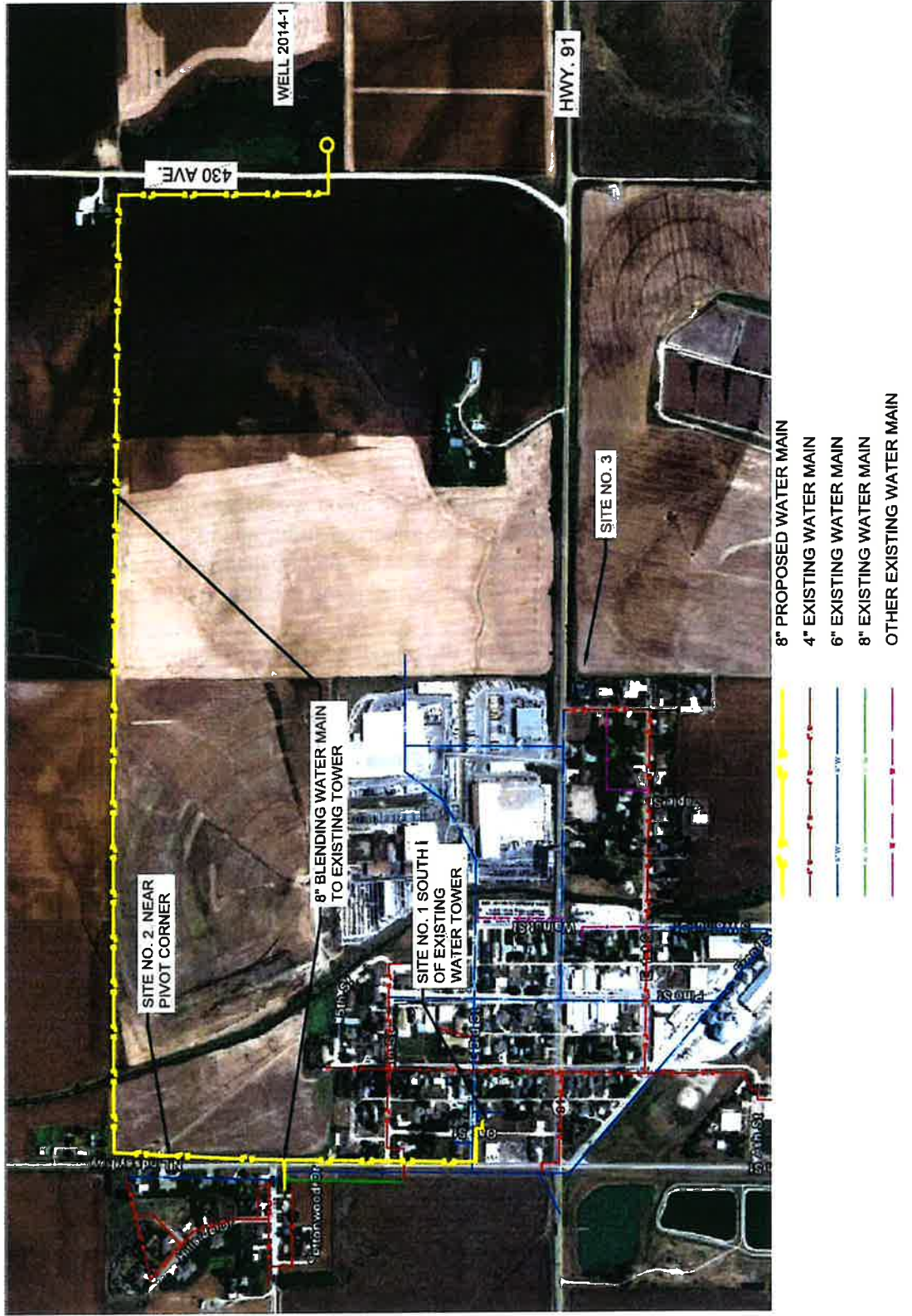


Figure 5-2: Distribution System Improvements Layout

