



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

May 10, 2023

Charlie Hancock
Selectboard & Water Commission Chair
Town of Montgomery
P.O. Box 356
Montgomery Center, VT 05471

Re: FY2022 Community Grant (Town of Montgomery Wastewater Infrastructure Construction Project)

Preliminary Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Environmental Assessment Adoption

Dear Mr. Hancock:

As you know, the Town of Montgomery is intending to use federal grant funds from a Fiscal Year 2022 Congressional Appropriation to partially fund the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant. A previous environmental assessment (EA) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination was issued for this project by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development in August 2020.

In compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EPA has completed an independent environmental review of the potential impacts relative to the Town of Montgomery Wastewater Infrastructure Construction project. Additionally, EPA has had the opportunity to review the previously conducted EA and FONSI determination by USDA and agrees with the conclusion of that review. As such, EPA is adopting the August 2020 final EA released by the USDA titled "*FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FY20 Wastewater Treatment and Streetscape Project Franklin County, Vermont*" for the Town of Montgomery Wastewater Infrastructure Construction Project and is issuing a preliminary FONSI determination which is attached to this letter.

EPA's preliminary FONSI determination and adoption of the USDA EA will be made available for a 30-day public comment period as required by 40 CFR Section 6.203. All documents relative to this determination, including the invitation for public comment, is available for review through the EPA NEPA Compliance Documents website at <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/nepa/search>.

Please note that no administrative action will be taken by EPA on this action for at least 30 calendar days from the date of this preliminary FONSI and Adoption document. This decision will become final after 30 calendar days if no substantive comments are received by EPA.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this letter, you may contact Sarah Connors at (617) 918-1689.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Moraff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Ken Moraff, Director
Water Division

Attachment

cc: John Reilly, Hoyle Tanner
Mallory Rakowski, Hoyle Tanner
Shaun Fielder, USDA NH/VT Rural Development
Cynthia Parks, VT DEC
Lynnette Claudon, VT DEC
Jeff Fehrs, VT DEC