



TO: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

In accordance with the Nebraska Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (OSG) Program environmental review process, which is based on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the proposed agency action below:

This information reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be funded wholly or in part through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, please provide them at this time. The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) encourages public input in this decision-making process.

PROJECT NAME: Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining
APPLICANT: Village of Colon
COUNTY: Saunders
POPULATION: 107
OSG PROJECT # OSG.2025.002
OSG GRANT AMOUNT: \$470,757

The Village of Colon has applied for funding, through the OSG Program administered by the DWEE, to reline approximately 6,500 feet of sanitary sewer using cured in place pipe (CIPP) and to refurbish wastewater manholes. These improvements will reduce infiltration and inflow (I&I) into the Village's collection system. Currently, excessive I&I causes issues with the complete retention lagoons managed by the Village. During storm events, the system is forced to discharge from the lagoons. Implementing these improvements will eliminate this discharge and extend the useful life of the collection system.

Colon is listed on the SRF State Fiscal Year 2027 Intended Use Plan (IUP) and ranked at 55 points. Based on supporting documentation on file with the Department, this project is eligible for a grant under the OSG program for up to \$470,757. Because the project addresses water and energy efficiency improvements, \$470,757 is qualified Green Project Reserve funding. The City of Omaha is co-sponsoring with the Village of Colon to provide the matching funds as required by the OSG program.

Proposed improvements were reviewed for eligibility for a categorical exclusion from a NEPA review specified in 40 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 6.204. The project meets all criteria described in the above reference, and the Department has determined that the project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that a Finding of No Significant Impact will not be prepared. The proposed project will be within the existing footprint of the collection system. Justification for categorical exclusion includes:

- The proposed action is not known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts on the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect state or federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric archeological or cultural value, including but not limited to, properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The proposed action is not known or expected to significantly affect environmentally important natural resource areas like wetlands, prime farmland, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat;
- Based on a review of the available mapping, the slip lining does not lie within the 100-year floodplain.

- The proposed action is not known or expected to have a significant effect on the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population including altering the character of existing residential areas, or may not be consistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or federal land management plans;
- Based on review there are no new/relocated surface or groundwater discharges; the project is not being developed to provide capacity to service a population greater than 30% of that existing for the community; and it is supported by a State growth strategy. In addition, there will not be a substantial increase in volume/loading of pollutants to receiving streams; and
- The proposed action is not known or expected to cause significant public controversy.

This project supports EPA's Strategic Plan to Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds by following these inputs and outcomes:

- **Inputs:**
 - Increase in funding to rural and financially distressed areas and to low-population areas;
 - Increase in adoption of green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements, and other environmentally innovative activities; and
 - Increase in investment for Infiltration/Inflow correction to rural communities with complete retention lagoons as their wastewater treatment works.
- **Outcomes:**
 - Increased compliance for municipalities regarding reduced violations for uncontrolled discharges from complete retention lagoon systems.

The DWEE shall revoke the categorical exclusion and shall require a full environmental review if, subsequent to granting the exclusion, the State determines that the project no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion due to changes in project scope; or new evidence reveals that serious local or environmental issues exist; or federal, state, or local or tribal laws are violated by proposed actions.

This action is taken on the basis of careful review of the application and other supporting data on file with the DWEE. All supporting documents are available for public inspection on request. Persons having comment on this categorical exclusion determination are encouraged to submit them directly to the SRF program at dwee.srf@nebraska.gov, or at 402-471-4200.

Signed this 9th day of October, 2026.

Sincerely,



Sarah Starostka,
Division Administrator
Planning & Aid Division

Attachments: Map
 Distribution List
 Environmental Assessment Questionnaire

**CATEX MAP
VILLAGE OF COLON, NEBRASKA**



CATEX DISTRIBUTION LIST VILLAGE OF COLON, NEBRASKA

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Project Title: Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining
2. Applicant: Village of Colon
3. Project Description: The Village of Colon is seeking funding to assess, correct, and improve their current wastewater system. The community has a history of high water table and infiltrating sanitary sewer lines causing uncontrolled bypass of their complete retention lagoons. Colon will assess sewer lines for infiltration and inflow (I&I) problems and install slip-lining in portions in damaged sections, correcting I&I within their collection system and preventing bypass of the lagoons.
4. Project Location: Portions of the collection system within the Village of Colon city limits. See attached project map.
5. Environmental Permits Needed for the Project (non-exhaustive):
 - a. A Title 123 Construction Permit from DWEE
 - b. Floodplain Development Permit from the local authority
 - c. Coverage under the Construction Stormwater and Dewatering general permits administered by DWEE may be required if more than 43,560 square feet of soil are disturbed or if groundwater is lowered to facilitate construction.

A. LAND USE:

- I. Conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), to non-agricultural use as defined under the Farmland Protection Act 7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.
No impact
- II. Conflicts with any applicable land use plan, policy, act, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, habitat conservation plan, specific plan, local plan, or zoning ordinance).
No impact

No changes in land use are anticipated.

B. AIR QUALITY:

- I. Conflicts with or delays in implementation of any applicable federal, state, or local air quality plan.
No impact
- II. Violations of any air quality standard or contributions to an existing or projected air quality violation (including protected areas designated as mandatory Federal "Class I")
No impact
- III. Increases in any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)
No impact
- IV. Releases of objectionable odors such as hydrogen sulfide.
No impact

No impacts are expected on any federal, state, or local air quality plans. The only emissions expected are those incidental to construction, such as vehicle emissions and dust. Dust is minimized during construction using best management practices stipulated in the construction and bid documents, but because of the nature of the project, little grading, excavation, or trenching is anticipated further minimizing potential emissions.

C. NOISE AND VIBRATION:

- I. Generation of noise levels more than standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies.
No impact
- II. Permanent increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project.
No impact

- III. Temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project.
No impact
- IV. Generation of vibration that could increase the risk of structural damage.
No impact

Typical construction noise is expected to occur during the relining process. No conflicts are expected with any local noise ordinance, plan, or standard. No increase in ambient noise is expected after relining. No impact.

D. GEOLOGY AND SOILS:

- I. Exposure of people or structures to hazards from unstable soils, landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.
- II. Increase in soil erosion or loss of topsoil.
- III. Loss of economic viable mineral deposits, scientifically significant paleontological resources, or unique geologic features.

No impact on geology and soils is anticipated resulting from the project. All manhole refurbishment is proposed in the existing street right-of-way and slip lining does not disturb the sub-surface.

E. WATER RESOURCES:

- I. Violations of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, including degradation of water quality.
No impact
- II. Depletion or contamination of groundwater supplies (including sole-source aquifers) or negatively interfere with groundwater recharge.
The project is within 1000-feet of a public water supply well which does not regularly supply drinking water and is on emergency use status. Lower Platte North Rural Water district supplies water to the Village, purchased from the City of Wahoo. There are no anticipated impacts to groundwater quality or quantity as a result of the project.
- III. Alteration to the drainage pattern of a water resource that would result in an increase in erosion or flooding on- or off-site.
No impact
- IV. Soil erosion or stormwater runoff that increases sediment, pollutants, or contaminates into streams, rivers, or other water resources.
If proposed improvements disturb more than one acre of soil, the project will need to obtain coverage under the Construction Stormwater General permit. Any dewatering activities may require coverage under the Dewatering General permit as stipulated by the construction documents. The project contractor will coordinate with the Construction Stormwater and NPDES group as needed for permit coverage to mitigate any potential impacts.
- V. Floodplain modification, development within, or redirection, as defined by executive order 11988.
Portions of the project will be constructed within the regulated 1% annual chance floodplain. All development will comply with local floodplain regulations, and a floodplain development permit has been obtained for the project. There are no anticipated changes to Base Flood Elevation, no watercourse or drainway will be modified, and no changes to the Special Flood Hazard Area will occur as a result of the project. During construction the project will adhere to the requirements of the floodplain development permit.
- VI. Increase in flood risk affecting loss on human safety, health, and welfare.
No impact
- VII. Loss, degradation or destruction of wetlands and waterbodies through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
No impact
- VIII. Alteration of wild and scenic rivers as defined by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.
No impact
- IX. Conflicts with the Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. 403.
No impact

- X. Conflicts with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, 16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.
No impact
- XI. Conflicts with the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.
No impact

No impacts are expected on water resources due to the proposed improvements. Necessary permits have been obtained for construction in a floodplain.

F. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

- I. Jeopardizing the continued existence of any threatened or endangered species identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marines Fisheries Service.
A Conservation and Environmental Review Tool report was generated for the project to document consultation with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission pursuant the Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act. Portions of the project area may be within 1000-feet of suitable habitat for the northern long-eared bat, a listed species. To prevent any impacts on listed species, the project will implement conservation measure NLEB CM-2: no removal of suitable trees or roosting structures between May 15 and July 31 (maternity roosting season) will be permitted during the project. A signed copy of the environmental report and conservation measures agreement is available on request from the Department.
- II. Modification, fragmentation, or degradation of critical habitat identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marines Fisheries Service.
No impact
- III. Harm to fauna, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates.
No impact
- IV. Changes in vegetation type (native to the region), particularly if the vegetation type in the region is already highly fragmented because of human activity.
No impact
- V. Modification, fragmentation, or degradation of biological sensitive areas other than those mentioned above.
No impact
- VI. Disturbances to marine mammals protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act as defined under 16 U.S.C. 1361-1407.
No impact
- VII. Disturbances to Bald or Golden Eagles as defined under 16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.
No impact
- VIII. Disturbances to migratory birds as defined under 16 U.S.C. 703-712 as amended.
No impact
- IX. Conflicts with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, state, or federal habitat conservation plan.
No impact
- X. Introduction or spread of invasive species as identified under Executive Order 13112.
No impact

No impacts on any biological resources are anticipated. No clearing of trees or suitable roosting habitat for the northern long-eared bat will occur during the maternal roosting season from May 15th to July 31st. No clearing is anticipated as a part of the project.

G. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

- I. Changes to historical resources, including archaeological and cultural resources as defined in 36 CFR part 800.
- II. Modification of unique paleontological resources or site or unique geologic features.
No impact
- III. Disturbance of human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.
No impact

There are no known changes to historical, archaeological, or cultural resources as defined in 36 CFR 800. The proposed project will occur entirely on developed land and within the street right-of-way and has no impact on any National or State Historic Property and or property that meets the criteria of 36 CFR 800.

H. SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

No impact

I. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

- I. Changes to traffic patterns around the project area including, but not limited to, the arrival and departure of construction workers, vehicles hauling equipment and materials to the site, road closures, detours, and slower movement and large turning radii of trucks going to the project site.
Less than significant impact. Project specifications stipulate the contractor will coordinate with adjacent property owners at least 48 hours in advance of any work that may affect that property. Contractor will also coordinate with local utilities and authorities in advance of any excavation or street closures, and limit utility shutdowns to the shortest extent possible. Temporary approaches and crossings will be provided during construction operations.

Less than significant impact during construction. No long-term impacts anticipated.

J. UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

- I. Changes to electric, cable, gas, sewer, water, stormwater, and other existing services.
Changes to the sewer collection system include CCTV inspection, manhole refurbishment, and relining sewer segments in poor condition. Owner will locate and provide access to manholes and water. Contractor is responsible for cleaning sewers, clearing line obstructions, and television inspection. Contractor to provide sewage bypass as needed to maintain sanitary service throughout the project. Cured in Place Pipe liner to be installed after cleaning and inspection have completed.

- II. Changes to community services, such as open space, recreational and cultural facilities.

No impact

Less than significant impact. Construction conditions are controlled by the project documents and consulting engineer. Temporary disruption of sewer services may be necessary to complete the project but will be minimized. No long-term impacts are anticipated.

K. HAZARDOUS AND TOXIC MATERIALS AND WASTE

- I. Accidental releases, spills, or improper storage and disposal of hazardous materials.
No impact
- II. Conflicts with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Solid Waste Disposal Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.
No impact

- III. Generation or increase in the amount of sewage sludge that is not in compliance with EPA standards for the use or disposal of sewage sludge.

No impact

No CERCLA, RCRA, Solid Waste, Toxic Substance, or hazardous chemical sites exist within or near the project boundaries. Proposed improvements do not involve hazardous chemicals. No sludge will be generated by the slip lining. No impact.

L. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY

- I. Creating occupational health hazards for workers during construction or operation.
No impact
- II. Creating or contributing to environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children.
No impact

- III. Creating or contributing to a public health risk of immediate injury or long-term health hazards.

No impact

Any potential human health and safety measures required during construction are stipulated by the project documents and controlled by the project engineer. No impact.

M. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Category	Impact Anticipated		
	No Impact	Less than Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact
Land Use	X		
Air Quality	X		
Noise and Vibration		X	
Geology and Soils	X		
Water Resources	X		
Biological Resources	X		
Cultural Resources	X		
Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice	X		
Transportation and Traffic		X	
Utilities and Community Services		X	
Hazardous and Toxic Materials and Waste	X		
Human Health and Safety	X		

No long-term impacts are expected because of the project. All improvements are in developed areas entirely within the Village of Colon. During construction, there will be less than significant impacts associated with noise, traffic, and utility interruption typical of a sewer relining project. Potential impacts on water and biological resources are expected to be fully mitigated by the measures discussed earlier in this report.

OUTCOMES

Proposed improvements will address inflow and infiltration issues in the collection system, extend the useful life of the system, and reduce loading to the complete retention lagoons operated by the Village. Additionally, the project will help the Village manage the lagoons by preventing discharge during storm events.

10/7/2026

X Bridger Corkill

Signed by: Corkill, Bridger

Bridger Corkill, Engineer
Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment