

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Section 340 Crab Creek Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project Mason County, West Virginia

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The Environmental Assessment (EA), dated June 2025, for the Section 340 Crab Creek Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project, addresses aging infrastructure at the existing water treatment plant (WTP) which causes unsanitary and unsafe conditions for individuals in Mason County, West Virginia. The need for the WTP improvements is to provide residents with reliable and safe water infrastructure.

The draft EA, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would provide residents with reliable and safe water infrastructure in the study area. The recommended plan is the Proposed Action Alternative (PAA) and includes:

- Improvements to the existing Crab Creek WTP, including installation of four (4) new pressure filters, removal of the existing filters, addition of four (4) new garage doors to the treatment building, installation of a new storage building, construction of a concrete walkway around the treatment building and a concrete loading zone in front of the new garage doors, a new gravel entrance road, and expanding the site fencing. In addition, there would be various internal electrical, plumbing, and HVAC unit upgrades to the existing WTP.

Under the No Action Alternative (NAA), the Corps would not provide funding for the project and the Mason County Public Service District would not improve their WTP. Section 2.0 of the draft EA discusses the proposed action and alternatives.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS:

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the recommended plan are listed in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action

| Resource | Insignificant effects | Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation | Resource unaffected by action |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Aesthetics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Air quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aquatic resources/wetlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Invasive species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fish and wildlife habitat | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic properties | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other cultural resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Floodplains | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hydrology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Land use | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Navigation | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Noise levels | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public infrastructure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Socioeconomics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Soils | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tribal trust resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Water quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prime and Unique Farmland | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

All practical means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices (BMPs), as detailed in the EA, will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. BMPs that would be utilized during construction of the PAA would include silt/filter sock or belted silt fence to prevent runoff.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the recommended plan.

A 30-day public, state, and agency review of the draft EA will be completed. All comments submitted during the public review period will be responded to in the Final EA and FONSI.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Corps determined that the recommended plan will have no effect on Federally listed species or their designated critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that the recommended plan has no potential to effect historic properties. On 31 August 2022, the SHPO concurred with the determination of no potential to effect. Coordination with Tribal nations is ongoing and will be completed prior to issuance of the FONSI.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials will be completed. On 24 September 2024, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) determined that the project does not impact prime or other important farmland and is therefore not subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on these reports, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not significantly affect the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

