

## DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

### Section 340 City of Williamson Water System Upgrade Project Mingo 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 Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) dated June 2025, for the Section 340 City of Williamson Water System Upgrade Project addresses the existing water treatment and distribution system plant in the City of Williamson (City) within Mingo County, West Virginia which provides water to approximately 1,742 customers in the area. The project is necessary to repair and replace components that are aging or near capacity.

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

- Construction and installation of three (3) 2,500-gpm treatment plant high service pumps, new filter media, construction of approximately 15,100 feet of 24-inch and smaller diameter water mains, a 500-gpm booster pump station, two (2) new 1,500,000 gallon water storage tanks, one (1) new 500,000-gallon water storage tank, one (1) new 300,000-gallon water storage tank, rehabilitation of an existing 300,000-gallon water storage tank, numerous pressure reducing stations, back-up generators for the treatment plant and booster pump station, one (1) 12-inch, portable back-up pump with accessories, telemetry, fire hydrants, valves, 1,750 replacement meters, and other related appurtenances. Water for the project would be produced by the City, which uses the Tug Fork River as the source for raw water.

In addition to a “no action” plan, one (1) alternative was evaluated. This alternative involved upgrading the water treatment, storage, and distribution system. 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 Recommended Plan**

Resource	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation	No effect
Land Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terrestrial Habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prime and Unique Farmland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Wild and Scenic Rivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tribal Trust Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Threatened and Endangered Species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive Species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socioeconomics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation and Traffic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practical means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices, as detailed in the EA, will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. As requested by the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the 500-gpm booster pump house would be painted white to blend in with the background of the old water treatment plant on Mulberry Street to avoid adverse effects to the historic district.

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

Public, state, and agency review of the Draft EA and FONSI will be completed on 30 July 2025. All comments submitted during the review periods 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 may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following Federally listed species: northern long-eared bat, gray bat, tricolored bat, Indiana bat, and monarch butterfly. Additionally, the recommended plan would have no effect on the Big Sandy crayfish. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with the determinations on 13 May 2025.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that the recommended plan would have no potential to affect historic properties and no potential to cause effect to cultural resources. Therefore, no Tribal consultation was necessary. The West Virginia SHPO concurred with the determination on 5 September 2024.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials will be completed. The Natural Resources Conservation Service indicated that the recommended plan is exempt from the Farmland Protection Policy Act on 16 May 2025.

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, 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.

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Date

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