

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

Lake of the Woods Regional Sewer District: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utility Services, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utility Service (RUS), as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Lake of the Woods Regional Sewer District of Bremen, Indiana. The proposal is for construction of a new force main to regionalize the existing Lake of the Woods wastewater system to the Town of Bremen, IN wastewater system. Lake of the Woods Regional Sewer District has submitted an application to RUS for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Allen, Community Programs Specialist, RUS, 1410 S. Heaton St. Knox, IN 46534; 574-249-7010; patrick.allen@usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Lake of the Woods Regional Sewer District proposes a new 8-inch force main that will convey flow from Lake of the Woods Lift Station #5 and connect to an existing Town of Bremen sanitary manhole, as well as demolition and decommissioning of the existing Lake of the Woods Treatment Lagoons, and improvements to Lift Station #5.

Stantec Consulting Services Inc., an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RUS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided. RUS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.

