## DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CIVIL WORKS, SECTION 408 NEPA COMPLIANCE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT FOR EAST BANK – WEST BANK INTERCEPTOR CONNECTION

<u>Description of Action</u>. An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and USACE Engineering Regulation 200-2-2. This EA describes the potential environmental consequences resulting from approving, pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408, (referred to as Section 408), modifications to the Dallas Floodway System in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve the reliability and functionality of wastewater transfers from the Cadiz Street Pump Station (CSPS) to the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWWTP) while maintaining the integrity of the Trinity River levees and avoiding impact to the City's ability to achieve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certification for the Dallas Floodway System.

The two large sewer mains proposed under this project, known collectively as the East Bank-West Bank Interceptor Connection Project, were designed and permitted under 33 CFR Section 208.10 in 2009. Only the first line had been constructed before a January 2012 flood event caused the tunnel to be breached creating a depression in the Trinity River Floodway. This Section 408 EA document addresses remediation of this depression and seeks USACE approval to complete construction of the proposed project, which includes installation of 3,400 linear feet of tunnel between the CSPS and the CWWTP. By implementing the proposed project, the City intends to improve conveyance of waste waters to the CWWTP and preserve its ability to achieve its 100-year FEMA accreditation.

<u>Anticipated Environmental Effects</u>. The Environmental Assessment (EA) considers two alternatives, including the no action. No significant adverse direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to the human and natural environment associated with implementation of the proposed action are identified. There are no anticipated impacts to habitat for threatened or endangered species, and all impacts to wetlands and waters of the U.S. would be minimal and fall within the limits of *Nationwide Permit 12 – Utility Line Activities* (Project No. SWF-2012-00324) in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act In addition, the second tunnel was previously issued a NWP-12. That permit expired and DWU has requested a second NWP. Since it has been determined to be a Section 408 project, the proposed work is eligible to be authorized under Regional Permit 12.

<u>Conclusions</u>. Based on a review of the information contained in this EA, it is determined that the implementation of the proposed action is not a major federal action, which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Charles H. Klinge Colonel, US Army Commanding Date