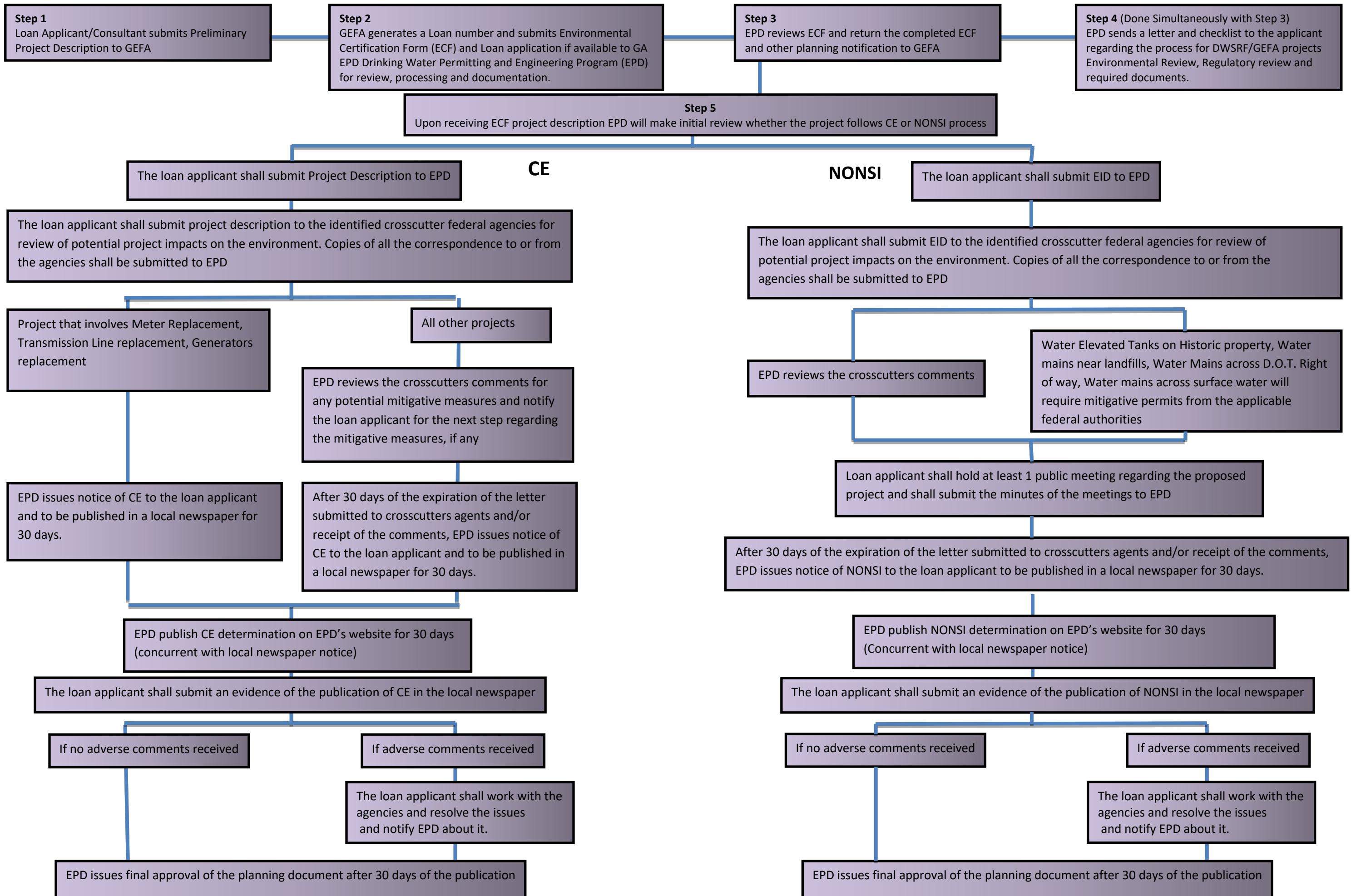


DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS FLOW



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Unit**

Drinking Water State Revolving (DWSRF) Environmental Review Process

This checklist is provided by Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Program (DWP) of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and it is intended to assist public water systems in submitting documentation for the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), in compliance with the policies of Georgia's DWSRF, 40 CFR §35-3575 & 40 CFR §35.3580. Please note that DWSRF loan applicants must be permitted by EPD to operate a public water system.

Categorical Exclusion Process

1. The loan applicant will submit the loan application or project description to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA). GEFA will submit the Environmental Certification Form (ECF) to DWP for review, processing, and documentation.
2. DWP will communicate with the loan applicant regarding the process for the DWSRF regulatory review.
3. The applicant or its agent will submit a dated letter and detailed project description to the identified crosscutter agents (U.S Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Georgia Historic Preservation Division) for review. The applicant will also send the detailed project description to the DWP.
4. The applicant or its agent will submit to DWP any comments from the crosscutter agents.
5. DWP will review the crosscutter comments for any potential mitigative measures and notify the applicant for the next steps.
6. After 30 days of the expiration of the letter submitted to crosscutter agents and/or receipt of comments from crosscutter agents, DWP will issue a Categorical Exclusion (CE) determination to the applicant. The applicant will publish the determination in the local newspaper for 30 days. DWP will also publish the determination on EPD's website.
7. The applicant will submit evidence of the 30-day publication of the CE determination to DWP. If there are no objections, DWP will then issue the final planning approval.

Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI) Process

1. The loan applicant will submit the loan application or project description to GEFA. GEFA will submit the ECF to DWP for review, processing, and documentation.
2. DWP will communicate with applicant regarding the process for the DWSRF regulatory review.
3. The applicant or its agent will submit a dated letter, project planning documents, and an engineering report/environmental impact document to the identified crosscutter agents (U.S Fish & Wildlife Service,

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Georgia Historic Preservation Division) for review. The applicant will also send the planning documents and engineering report/environmental impact document to DWP.

4. The applicant will publish a notice for a public meeting in the local newspaper for 30 days. The meeting minutes are then submitted to DWP.
5. The applicant or its agent will submit any comments from the crosscutter agents to DWP.
6. DWP will review the crosscutter comments for any potential mitigative measures and notify the applicant for the next steps.
7. After 30 days of the expiration of the letter submitted to crosscutter agents and/or receipt of comments from crosscutter agents, DWP will issue a Notice of No Significant (NONSI) determination to the applicant. The applicant will publish the determination in the local newspaper for 30 days. DWP will also publish the determination on EPD's website.
8. The applicant will submit to DWP evidence of the 30-day publication of the NONSI determination. If there are no objections, DWP will then issue the final planning approval.
9. If there are adverse comments and/or objections, DWP may not issue the final planning approval until all concerns are satisfactorily resolved and documented.

For assistance with these processes, please use the contact information below.

EPD DWP: (404) 651-8427

Peter.Nwogu@dnr.ga.gov

GEFA: (404) 584-1000

waterresources@gefa.ga.gov