

# **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REPORT**

## **Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main**

**Dorchester County, South Carolina**

*US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District (USACE)*

*October 2018*

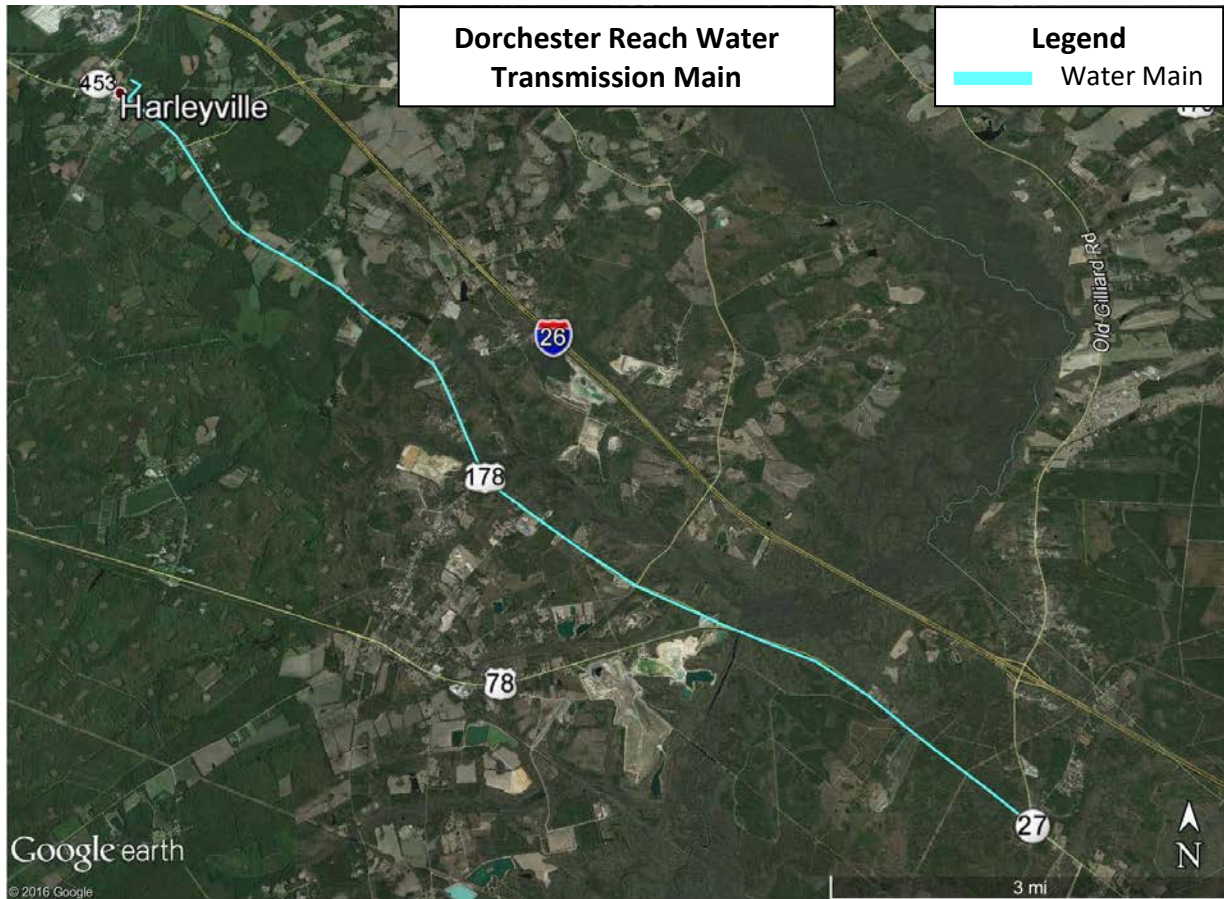
This Supplemental Information Report (SIR) was prepared in accordance with Section 13(d) of Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-2-2, *Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)* and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508).

The environmental impacts of the Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main are provided in the Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main Final Environmental Assessment (EA) dated November 2016 and are hereby incorporated by reference in accordance with NEPA. The purpose of this SIR is to document an approximate one mile extension of the 10.6 mile water transmission main. The environmental conditions and environmental impacts described in the previous NEPA document are still valid. Supplementation of the existing NEPA documentation is not required per 40 CFR 1502.9(c) because substantial changes to the proposed action have not occurred, nor do the modifications have significant bearing on the findings of the previous NEPA document.

### **MODIFICATIONS TO THE WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN PROJECT**

**Description of Existing Project:** The Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main is part of the Lake Marion Regional Water System. The Dorchester Reach extends the water system from the Town of Harleyville approximately 10.6 miles eastward to the intersection of US Highway 78 and SC Highway 27, near the Town of Ridgeville (see Figure 1). The water main is being installed within Department of Transportation (DOT) rights-of-way along US Highways 178 and 78 with some excursions outside of the rights-of-way at areas that were directionally drilled under wetlands. A total of 3.84 acres of wetlands will be impacted by construction of the water main with 1.47 acres being temporarily impacted during construction and 2.37 acres being permanently impacted due to the wetlands being permanently cleared of trees. Wetland impacts were mitigated for by purchasing 23.7 mitigation credits from the Francis Beidler Forest using a permittee responsible mitigation agreement.

**Description of Modifications:** The modifications to the existing project consist of extending the water main approximately one mile northward along SC Highway 27 terminating at a new metering station approximately 1000 feet south of the intersection of Highway 27 and Interstate 26 (see Figure 2). The water main will be installed entirely within the DOT right-of-way. The DOT right-of-way was recently expanded to accommodate planned widening of Highway 27. The metering station will be constructed in uplands outside of the DOT right-of-way. The water

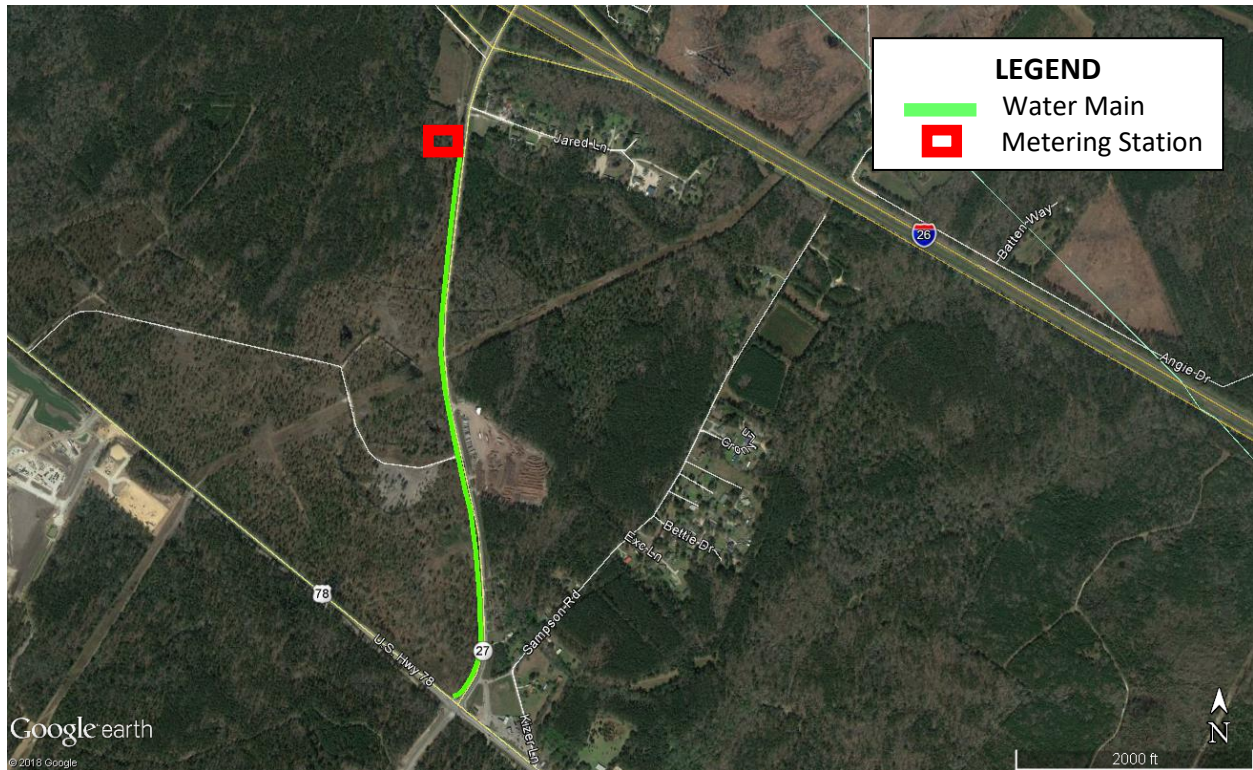


**Figure 1 – Existing Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main**

main will be installed using ‘cut and cover’ construction methodology, and will be installed through four small areas of wetland. Construction work in the wetlands will follow the guidelines in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number 12.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Three of the four wetlands that will be impacted by extending the water main, will be impacted by DOT’s upcoming widening of Highway 27. The impacts due to the road widening involve fill, excavation, and clearing. DOT has already mitigated for these impacts by purchasing mitigation credits from the Brosnan Forest Mitigation Bank. The fourth wetland being impacted by extending the water main, near the intersection of Highway 27 and Highway 78, was previously impacted during DOT’s realignment of the Hwy 27/78 intersection. The impacts due to re-alignment of the intersection involved fill, excavation, and clearing. DOT has already mitigated for these impacts by purchasing mitigation credits from the Pigeon Pond Mitigation Bank and from the Francis Beidler Forest In Lieu Fee Mitigation program. Installation of the water main within the DOT right-of-way will have no further impacts on these four wetlands.



**Figure 2 – Highway 27 Addition to Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main**

There are no threatened or endangered species present within or near the footprint of the expanded Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main project. The project’s footprint was also investigated for potential archaeological or cultural resources during the investigation for the original project; no archaeological/cultural resources were found within the projects footprint (a copy of the report is in Appendix A of the November 2016 Final EA). The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control – Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (DHEC-OCRM) issued a Federal Consistency concurrence on December 30, 2016 that the Dorchester Reach Water Transmission Main project was consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program. The extension of the water main will require an amendment to this concurrence from DHEC-OCRM. The request for an amendment has been submitted to DHEC-OCRM and coordination with DHEC-OCRM staff has indicated that concurrence will be granted. The extension of the water main was evaluated for compliance with other environmental protection statutes and executive orders. There were no results from this re-evaluation that altered the findings of the November 2016 Final EA.


## **SUMMARY OF DECISION**

The modifications to the action have been re-reviewed by the USACE for environmental compliance, and are not expected to result in any significant adverse environmental impacts as described by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Supplementation of the Dorchester



Reach Water Transmission Main EA is not required per 40 CFR 1502.9(c) because substantial changes to the proposed action have not occurred nor do the modifications have significant bearing on the findings of the EA and FONSI finalized in November 2016. All NEPA documentation incorporated by reference or mentioned in this SIR can be downloaded from the internet (in PDF format) at <http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/NEPA-Documents/> or copies can be obtained by contacting Alan Shirey at [alan.d.shirey@usace.army.mil](mailto:alan.d.shirey@usace.army.mil) or (843) 329-8166.

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