

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of Georgia Central Railway Occupancy License Agreement for the Regional Water Supply Project

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Department: Procurement, Engineering

Meeting Date: October 6th, 2026

Item Description: Consideration to approve Genesee & Wyoming/Georgia Central Railway Occupancy License Agreement for the Regional Water Supply Project.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Genesee & Wyoming/Georgia Central Railway Occupancy License Agreement for the Regional Water Supply Project.

Executive Summary / Background:

As part of the Effingham Regional Water Supply Project, the County is required to install an underground water transmission line across railroad property operated by Georgia Central Railway, L.P., a Genesee & Wyoming railroad.

The railroad permitting and licensing process is being administered through Genesee & Wyoming Railroad Services, Inc. (G&W) on behalf of Georgia Central Railway. Georgia Central Railway has provided Occupancy License Agreement Permit No. GCLP260235672, which authorizes Effingham County to install and maintain the underground water pipeline crossing near Mile Post 513.0845 of the Savannah Subdivision in Meldrim, Effingham County. The agreement identifies the proposed facility as a 32-inch water transmission carrier pipe within a 48-inch casing, together with the necessary appurtenances and related facilities.

The agreement includes an annual license fee of \$2,000, subject to a 3% annual increase. The agreement also identifies a \$1,000 processing fee, \$2,250 engineering review fee, and \$1,750 Contractor Right of Entry fee.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the License Agreement
2. Do not approve
3. Provide staff with direction

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2, 3

Department Review: Procurement, Engineering

Funding Source: Capital Improvement Budget

Attachments: Georgia Central Railway Occupancy License Agreement