

**State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health  
Drinking Water Section, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST**

<b>Date:</b> August 7, 2011	<b>Staff Contact:</b> Cam Walden
<b>Applicant PWS Name:</b> Town of Burlington	<b>Town:</b> Burlington
<b>DPH DWSRF Project #:</b> N/A	<b>PWSID:</b> CT1430011
<b>Project Name:</b> Main Street Water Main Extension, CVS to Casille's	
<b>Funding Source:</b> Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP)	
<b>State Funds:</b> \$ \$121,387.10	

**This assessment is being conducted in conformance to the generic Environmental Classification Document for Connecticut state agencies to determine Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) obligations**

**Project Description:** The project comprises of the excavation and backfilling necessary for the installation of new water mains to provide water service to businesses along the Rte. 4 Central Business Zone in the Town of Burlington from CVS to Casille's Restaurant. A 12 inch Class 52 cement lined ductile iron (DI) water main is proposed to be installed along Rte. 4, from an existing Torrington Water Company (TWC) main in the proximity of CVS in Burlington Center to Casille's Restaurant. The project additionally includes the installation of three hydrant assemblies, and miscellaneous gate valves, each with valve box, tees, elbow(s), and all associated appurtenant work.

**Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) Section 22a-1a-3 Determination of environmental significance (direct/indirect)**

1. Impact on air and water quality or on ambient noise levels.
  - a. Air Quality – The project is not expected to cause significant adverse air quality effects.
  - b. Water Quality - The project is not expected to cause significant adverse water quality effects to the adjacent watercourses.
  - c. Ambient Noise Levels - The project is not expected to cause significant noise in the immediate area.
2. Impact on a public water supply or serious effects on groundwater, flooding, erosion, or sedimentation
  - a. Water Supply - The project area is not located within a public drinking water supply source water area.
  - b. Groundwater - The project is not expected to cause significant impacts to neighboring groundwater.

- c. Flooding – The project is not located within a 100 year flood zone on the community’s Flood Insurance Rate Map.
  - d. Erosion or Sedimentation -. In order to protect any wetlands and watercourses adjacent to the site, strict erosion and sediment controls should be implemented during project construction.
3. Effect on natural land resources and formations, including coastal and inland wetlands, and the maintenance of in-stream flows –. If there are any undisturbed areas that will be impacted, it is recommended that a certified soil scientist perform a reconnaissance of the site in order to determine whether there are any areas which would be regulated as wetlands or watercourses as defined by Sections 22a-38 (15) and (16) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), respectively.
  4. Disruption or alteration of an historic, archeological, cultural or recreational building, object, district, site or surroundings -. The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
  5. Effect on natural communities and upon critical species of animal or plant and their habitats - interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species - The Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB), maintained by DEEP, contains a record of the Eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), listed by the State as a species of special concern pursuant to section 26-306 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), in the vicinity of this proposed project. Eastern box turtles require old field and deciduous forest habitats, which can include power lines and logged woodlands. They are often found near small streams and ponds; the adults are completely terrestrial but the young may be semiaquatic, and hibernate on land by digging down in the soil from October to April. They have an extremely small home range and can usually be found in the same area year after year. This species is dormant from November 1 to April 1. It has been negatively impacted by the loss of suitable habitat.

If work must be done during the box turtle’s active period (April 1 to November 1) then the Wildlife Division of the DEEP recommends the following precautionary measures to protect box turtle habitat:

- that the workers be apprised of these species descriptions and possible presence and that the area be searched each day prior to working,
  - that work conducted in these habitats during the early morning and evening hours should occur with special care not to harm basking or foraging individuals,
  - that any turtles encountered be moved out of the way, just outside the work zone,
  - that all precautions should be taken to avoid degradation to wetland habitats including any wet meadows and seasonal pools,
  - that if silt fences are used, they should be removed as soon as the project is completed, and
  - that no heavy machinery or vehicles be parked in any suitable habitat.
6. Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to create extensive detrimental environmental impact - No significant impact expected.

7. Substantial aesthetic or visual effects - The project construction is expected to be completed in a short period of time. Due to the nature and timeframe of the project construction, the project is not expected to cause substantial aesthetic or visual impacts in the area.
8. Inconsistency with the written and/or mapped policies of the statewide Plan of Conservation and Development and such other plans and policies developed or coordinated by the Office of Policy and Management or other agency - No significant impact expected.
9. Disruption or division of an established community or inconsistency with adopted municipal or regional plans- No significant impact expected.
10. Displacement or addition of substantial numbers of people - No significant impact expected.
11. Substantial increase in congestion (traffic, recreational, other) – The project is not expected to create substantial traffic congestion in the area. The Town will provide personnel to maintain traffic rules and public safety in the area.
12. A substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of the action - No significant impact expected.
13. The creation of a hazard to human health or safety - The project is not expected to create significant public hazard and safety.
14. Any other substantial impact on natural, cultural, recreational or scenic resources - No significant impact expected.

**Conclusions:**

Based on the comments provided by the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the DPH, both dated June 6, 2011, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation under CEPA. The DPH will coordinate with the Town of Burlington to ensure that the DEEP and DPH recommendations will be implemented.

**Recommendations:**

Since the water line is to be pressure tested and disinfected after installation, the discharge would be covered by the *General Permit for the Discharge of Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Wastewater* (DEP-PERD-GP-011). This general permit applies to all discharges of waters used to test the structural integrity of new or used tanks and pipelines that hold or transfer drinking water, sewage, or natural gas. The general permit contains pH, chlorine, oil and grease, and suspended solids limits which will need to be complied with during the testing and verified through monitoring. Registration is required to be submitted to the DEEP in order for the discharges to be authorized by this general permit. For further information, please contact the DEEP at 860 424-3018 or visit its website at: [www.ct.gov/deep/](http://www.ct.gov/deep/)

Prior to starting the project construction, the following best management practices should be considered:

1. **Construction Maintenance:** No construction should take place before erosion and sedimentation controls are installed. These controls should be properly installed, maintained, inspected regularly, and remain in place until the project construction is completed. During construction and until a vegetative cover is reestablished, the project area should be inspected daily and after rainfall to verify erosion control measures are properly functioning. Any defects on the structure must be immediately repaired.
2. **Hazardous Materials Storage:** Hazardous materials should be removed from the site during non-work hours or otherwise stored in a secure area to prevent vandalism. Place covered trashcans and recycling receptacles around the site. Cover and maintain dumpsters. Check frequently for leaks. Place dumpsters under a roof or cover with tarps or plastic sheeting. Never clean a dumpster by hosing it down on site.
3. **Vehicles and Machinery:** Methods and locations of refueling, servicing, and storage of vehicles and machinery should be addressed and included as notes on the final site plans. All equipment fueling or minor repairs should occur on a fueling pad. Onsite fuel storage for heavy equipment should have containment and be located in a secure area where it will not be vandalized or struck by equipment or vehicles on the job site.