

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

<b>Date:</b>	July 21, 2015	<b>Staff Contact:</b>	Eric McPhee
<b>Applicant PWS Name:</b>	Town of Burlington	<b>Town:</b>	Burlington
<b>Project Name:</b>	Covey Road Water Main Extension		
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP)		
<b>State Funds:</b>	\$73,254.00		

**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 the installation of approximately 1,000 lineal feet of eight-inch water main and associated appurtenances along a portion of Covey Road in Burlington, CT. The new main will be connected to the existing water main of The Torrington Water Company, located on George Washington Turnpike. The project will be funded through the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) distributed by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM).

**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 proposed project is not expected to cause significant adverse air quality effects.
  - b. Water Quality - If the water main is to be tested and disinfected, the discharge would be covered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) *General Permit for the Discharge of Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Wastewater* (DEP-PERD-GP-011).

Storm water discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require an NPDES permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges.
  - c. Ambient Noise Levels - The proposed 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 proposed water main extension is not located in a public drinking water source water area; however it will bring water service to a sparsely developed area that borders the watershed of Lamson Corners—Burlington Brook Reservoir, a future potential source of public drinking water for the New Britain Water Department (NBWD, PWSID# CT0890011) designated as such on the High Quality Source (HQS) List produced by the DPH pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) section 25-33q. The Town of Burlington has indicated that it is dedicated to the protection and preservation of the integrity of the valuable natural resources within its boundaries and as such it will consult with the NBWD to identify the land that is tributary to the

Lamson Corners—Burlington Brook Reservoir. In addition, the Town was issued a Water Company Land Permit Number WCL2014-05 to allow for earth removal and regrading in one of the Town-owned undeveloped parcels near the proposed Covey Road Water Main Extension for the purpose of allowing for access to a major portion of NBWD's watershed lands allowing for the NBWD to conduct forest management, general security purposes, fire access/safety considerations and allow for passive recreation on both NBWD land and the Town's land. The Town has acknowledged by signing the permit that the land subject to the permit may not be developed for recreational purposes requiring intense development, including, but not limited to, golf courses, driving ranges, tennis courts, ballfields, swimming pools and uses by motorized vehicles other than vehicles needed by water companies to carry out their purposes, provided trails or pathways for pedestrians, motorized wheelchairs or nonmotorized vehicles shall not be considered intense development. The Town indicates that it will consider establishing land use controls and enforceable mechanisms to ensure that the NBWD's future potential source of public drinking water is protected. Although the DPH cannot compel the Town to adopt the policy recommendations offered in the comment memorandum of June 4, 2015, the DPH recommends that the Town of Burlington look to Town of New Hartford as an example of a community that has established such land use controls to protect the public drinking water source of supply used by other communities by including a Public Water Supply Watershed Overlay District in its [Zoning Regulations](#).

- b. Groundwater - The proposed project is not expected to cause significant impacts to neighboring groundwater.
  - c. Flooding –The proposed project is not located within the 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 employed during construction.
3. Effect on natural land resources and formations, including coastal and inland wetlands, and the maintenance of in-stream flows –The Natural Resources Conservation Service's Soil Survey does not depict any regulated wetland soils along Covey Road. If there are any undeveloped areas within the area to 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 section 22a-38(15) and (16) of the CGS, respectively. In order to protect any wetlands and watercourses adjacent to the site, strict erosion and sediment controls should be employed during construction. Additionally, all silt fencing should be removed after soils are stable so that reptile and amphibian movement between uplands and wetlands is not restricted.
  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 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 26-206 of the CGS in the vicinity of the proposed project. The recommendations contained in the DEEP correspondence dated June 4, 2014 must be adhered to.
  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 – The proposed project is consistent with the policies for a Village Priority Funding Area.
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 proposed 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 - Development plans for utilities in urban areas that entail soil excavation should include a protocol for sampling and analysis of potentially contaminated soil. A soil management plan should be developed for the project to deal with soils during construction.
14. Any other substantial impact on natural, cultural, recreational or scenic resources - No significant impact expected

**Conclusions:**

Based on the DPH’s environmental assessment of this project which includes a review of the comments provided by the DEEP dated June 4, 2015 and the Town of Burlington’s response to the DPH memorandum, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA. The DPH will coordinate with the Town of Burlington to ensure that the recommendations by the DEEP are implemented and will serve as a resource for the Town to utilize when developing mechanisms to protect and preserve the integrity of the valuable natural resources within its boundaries.

**Recommendations:**

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. **Emergency Response Plan:** Develop an Emergency Spill Response Plan before construction begins. Spill response equipment should be available on-site at all times along with personnel trained in the proper use of such equipment.
3. **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.
4. **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.