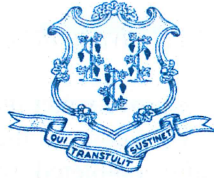


# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

### Drinking Water Section

June 30, 2017

Mr. Matthew Pafford  
Office of Policy and Management  
450 Capitol Ave, MS # 540ORG  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re:** Notice of Scoping: East Side Pressure Zone Improvements, Southington

Dear Mr. Pafford:

The Department of Public Health (DPH) is in receipt of your letter dated June 2, 2017 that discusses the comments on the Notice of Scoping for the above-referenced project proposed to be funded through the DWSRF. We evaluated the concerns you raised for this project and the following is our response to the items noted in the letter:

*At what point did the Town and DPH become aware of the water quality concerns and other necessary improvements as described in this scoping notice?*

Response: The project is located on a dead-end Road (Flanders Road). As such, water quality is a concern due to the potential for water stagnation and a low residual chlorine level as documented in the water quality monitoring report. The DPH was formally informed of the Southington Water Department's water quality concerns in the project area through a letter of April 21, 2017 submitted by the Town's project consultant. The additional work proposed in the Notice of Scoping will help to address this water quality issue and reduce the need for increased water quality monitoring and operator attention.

*Was this project reasonably foreseeable at the time of the East Side Storage Tank and Pump Station project?*

Response: The Town did foresee this additional work prior to the implementation of the East Side Storage Tank and Pump Station project. This work was not identified by the Town in the original East Side Pressure Zone Improvements project since the funding approved by the Town was intended only to cover the costs associated with the transmission main extension, storage tank and booster station installation. However, the original project is substantially complete under budget and the Town is requesting DPH's approval to use the excess funding to cover the cost for the proposed additional work. This work is expected to improve the operation of the system and allow for better operational controls to prevent bacterial growth in the water.



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*What is the purpose and need of this project, relative to the original project?*

Response: The purpose of this project is to improve water quality within the newly formed East Side Pressure Zone (original project). This loop would connect the East Side Pressure Zone to the West Queen Street pressure zone. This project, when totally completed, will eliminate a dead-end water main on Flanders Road and reduce water waste for the flushing that is currently necessary to ensure that the chlorine level in the water is sufficient to prevent potential bacterial growth. The project will also provide redundancy to back feed the West Queen Street pressure zone from the East Side Pressure Zone in the event of a water main break or other emergency situations.

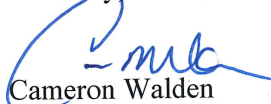
*It is OPM's understanding that DWSRF funded projects are first required to be publicly reviewed and prioritized on DPH's Intended Use Plan (IUP). Given this public process and the expectations of others who might have been bypassed for funding, DPH should explain the decision to advance the proposed additional work ahead of other projects that were identified and prioritized in the current IUP.*

Response: East Side Storage Tank and Pump Station project is substantially complete and there is remaining funding available. DPH allows the loan recipient to use the excess remaining funds in an existing Loan Agreement to cover the cost for additional work that will enhance the original project and provide additional public health value for that project. If such additional work was not adequately covered in DPH's original scoping notice then the work is reviewed for consistency with the Conservation and Development Policies Plan, a new scoping notice is published and a CEPA reviewed is completed on that work by the DPH.

The Town is not seeking additional funding for this additional work, instead they are requesting to use the remaining funds in their existing loan agreement to cover the cost for the proposed work. The Town has formally submitted a request to this office explaining the need of this project. Based on our review of the information submitted, it has been determined that the proposed additional work is eligible for DWSRF funding. The funding provided for this additional work will not take funding away from any other project that has been prioritized for funding in DPH's IUP.

Thank you for providing comments for this project and please do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions.

Sincerely,



Cameron Walden  
Supervising Sanitary Engineer  
Drinking Water Section

Electronic Copy: Fred Rogers, Southington Water Department  
Eric McPhee, DWS-Source Assessment and Protection Unit  
Pat Bisacky, DWS-Source Assessment and Protection Unit