



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

79 ELM STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

To: Cameron Walden - Supervising Sanitary Engineer
DPH - Drinking Water Section, 450 Capitol Avenue, MS#51WAT, Hartford

From: David J. Fox - Senior Environmental Analyst **Telephone:** 860-424-4111

Date: September 20, 2012 **E-Mail:** david.fox@ct.gov

Subject: Water Main Replacement, Putnam

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has received the Notice of Scoping for the project proposed by the Putnam Water Pollution Control Authority to replace or rehabilitate existing water mains on South Main, Walnut, Laconia, Mechanic, Pomfret, Wilkinson and Thompson Streets in Putnam. It appears that this project would fall under Category IV, a listing of actions which do not warrant a review pursuant to CEPA, in the *Generic Environmental Classification Document for State Agencies*. In any case, the following comments are submitted for your consideration.

The water main replacements on Mechanic and Thompson Streets are within the 100-year flood zone on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map. Because it is a State action, the project must be certified by DPH as being in compliance with flood and stormwater management standards specified in section 25-68d of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and section 25-68h-1 through 25-68h-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) and receive approval from the Department. For further information, contact the Inland Water Resources Division at 860-424-3706. A fact sheet regarding floodplain management and the certification form can be downloaded at: [Flood Management](#).

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's soil survey depicts bands of alluvial and floodplain soil, a regulated wetland soil, that would be crossed by the proposed route of the Thomson Street and South Main Street water mains. It is unknown whether the main will be installed under the roadway or shoulders, with no direct wetland impacts, or beyond previously filled areas. If the pipeline is to be routed beyond the developed right-of-way, 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. If the reconnaissance identifies regulated areas, they should be delineated. Any inland wetlands or watercourses at the site are regulated by the local inland wetlands agency, pursuant to section 22a-42 of the CGS. Many local agencies have established setback or buffer areas and require review and approval of activities within these upland areas adjacent to wetlands or watercourses. The local agency should be contacted regarding permit requirements.

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. The *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* prepared by the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation in cooperation with DEP is a recommended source of technical assistance in the selection and design of appropriate control measures. The 2002 revised edition of the Guidelines, published as DEP Bulletin 34 may be obtained at the DEEP bookstore, either by telephone 860-424-3555 or online at: [DEEP Bookstore](#)

If the water mains are to be tested and disinfected, 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 Department in order for the discharges to be authorized by this general permit. A fact sheet, the general permit which includes the registration form, titled Notice of Coverage, and the Application Transmittal form may be downloaded at: [Hydrostatic GP](#)

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed require a permit pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26. The Permitting & Enforcement Division has issued a *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEP-PERD-GP-015) that will cover these discharges. For projects disturbing five or more acres, registration describing the site and the construction activity must be submitted to the Department prior to the initiation of construction. A stormwater pollution control plan, including measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management, must be prepared. For sites where more than 10 acres will be disturbed, the plan must be submitted to the Department. A goal of 80 percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing post-construction stormwater management measures. For construction projects with a total disturbed area between one and five acres, no registration is required as long as the project is reviewed by the town and receives written approval of its erosion and sediment control measures and it adheres to the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. If no review is conducted by the town or written approval is not provided, the permittee must register with the Department. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3018. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: [Construction Stormwater GP](#).

Staff of the Natural Diversity Data Base has determined that the proposed activities will not impact any extant populations of Federally listed endangered or threatened species or species listed by the State, pursuant to section 26-306 of the CGS, as endangered, threatened or special concern at the project area. The NDDDB includes all information regarding critical biologic resources available at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department's Natural History Survey and cooperating units, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Also, be advised that this is a preliminary review. A more detailed review may be conducted as part of any subsequent environmental permit applications submitted to DEEP for the proposed site. Consultation with the Natural Diversity Data Base should not be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. The extent of investigation by competent biologist(s) of the flora and fauna found

at the site would depend on the nature of the existing habitat(s). If field investigations reveal any Federal or State listed species, please contact the DEEP Geologic & Natural History Survey at 860-424-3540.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If there are any questions concerning these comments, please contact me.

cc: Jeff Caiola, DEEP/IWRD
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