

**EXCLUSIVE SERVICE AREA DECLARATION FORM
EASTERN CONNECTICUT WUCC**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please answer all questions in Sections 1 and 2 and Sections A through H. Please feel free to attach additional sheets if necessary, or expand the size of answer boxes if necessary.

For additional information regarding the exclusive service area declaration process, or if you have questions, please contact any of the Eastern WUCC Officers, or contact Mr. Scott Bighinatti of Milone & MacBroom, Inc. at 203-271-1773 x204 or sbighinatti@mminc.com.

Kindly return this form completed and signed, and with any pertinent attachments, to Mr. Scott Bighinatti of Milone & MacBroom, Inc., 99 Realty Drive, Cheshire, Connecticut, 06410 via mail, fax (203-272-9733), or email (listed above).

SECTION 1. DECLARANT INFORMATION

Water Utility or Municipality Name: Town of Sterling

Mailing or Street Address: PO BOX 157

Town, State, Zip Code: Sterling, CT 06377

Primary Contact Person & Title: Russell Gray, First Selectman

Secondary Contact Person & Title: Joyce Gustavson, Administrative Assistant

Contact Telephone: (860) 564-2151

Contact Fax: (860) 564-1660

Contact Email: Selectman@Sterlingct.us

SECTION 2. DESCRIPTION OF AREA CLAIMED BY DECLARANT AS EXCLUSIVE SERVICE AREA

All area within the municipal boundaries of Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Windham, and Woodstock, with the exception of those parcels of land currently served by public water systems, are open to declarants as proposed exclusive service area boundaries.

1. Please provide a written description in the box below of your proposed exclusive service area boundary. If you are claiming only a portion of land within any of the above municipalities, please provide a general description of the limits of your proposed exclusive service area. For example, "all of town A" or "the portion of town B as generally bounded by street C, street D, street E, and the municipal boundary with town F". Attach additional pages if necessary.

The whole Town of Sterling with the exception of those lands claimed by DEEP.

2. If you are only claiming a portion of a municipality, please attach a clear delineation of your proposed exclusive service area boundary on a map for each portion of a municipality you are claiming.

SECTION A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION RELATED TO EXISTING WATER SERVICE AREA

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Do you currently own and operate a public water system within each municipality in your proposed exclusive service area? If no, indicate the municipalities in which you do not currently own and operate a system.

Yes

2. If you answered yes in Question 1, are you planning on expanding your existing service area in the future? If yes, describe your general expansion plans for the five-year, 20-year, and 50-year planning periods. Does your proposed ESA encompass areas outside of your proposed 50-year expansion area as noted in your most recent Water Supply Plan?

No, not at this time. Note that, to date, the Town of Sterling has not been required by DPH to submit a Water Supply Plan.

3. If you answered yes in Question 2, are you planning on servicing your entire proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing system, or will some or all of the areas need to be served through satellite systems? Please describe your intentions.

N/A

SECTION B. SUPPORTING INFORMATION RELATED TO EXISTING LAND USE PLANS, ZONING REGULATIONS, AND GROWTH TRENDS

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Describe your familiarity with the local, regional, and state land use plans, local zoning regulations, and recent local growth trends within each municipality in your proposed exclusive service areas.

Very familiar with local plans, regulations, and trends; fairly familiar with regional and state plans.

2. Identify the person or group at your utility or municipality responsible for reviewing and/or enforcing such plans and regulations, and what other groups serve to advise your utility or municipality on changes in land use and new developments at the local level.

The Sterling Planning and Zoning Commission reviews such plans with the assistance of the Sterling Land Use Department. The Land Use Department provides enforcement of regulations. The Sterling First Selectman advises the Sterling Water Pollution Control Authority on changes that may affect the municipal water system.

3. Do the current zoning, land use plans, and growth trends in the municipalities in your proposed exclusive service area currently suggest that new public water systems, or an extension of public water systems, will be needed?

No

4. Do the current zoning and land use plans in the municipalities in your proposed exclusive service area identify areas where public water and/or public sewer service avoidance policies are being sought, and are therefore unlikely to require public water service in the immediate future?

No

5. Are you familiar with the current water supply planning regulations (Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 25-32d) and how they relate to existing land use within each municipality that is served?

No, the Town would retain a consultant if a Water Supply Plan was necessary.

SECTION C. PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS TO WATER SERVICE

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing service area, will you need to develop new sources of supply to do so? In other words, do you have sufficient excess available water supply to reasonably serve the proposed exclusive service area?

No, our current wells are sufficient for presently identified demands. New source development may be necessary to serve satellite systems.

2. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via satellite systems, please identify any known areas in your proposed exclusive service area where bedrock yields are poor and/or groundwater contamination has affected groundwater quality.

None known.

SECTION D. POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Does your proposed exclusive service area cross political boundaries, such as municipal or borough boundaries?

No

2. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing service area, will water come from sources across municipal or other jurisdictional boundaries?

No

SECTION E. WATER COMPANY RIGHTS AS ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE, SPECIAL ACT, OR ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Do you have any right to provide water service within your proposed exclusive service area by virtue of State Statute? If yes, please cite the statute below. Note that if you are a municipality; please be reminded that you are authorized by Connecticut General Statute 7-234 of 1967 to provide water service to your municipality. You may cite that section below.

We are authorized by Connecticut General Statute 7-234 to provide water service to our municipality.

2. Do you have any right to provide water service within your proposed exclusive service area by virtue of a Special Act of the Connecticut General Assembly? If yes, please provide a copy of the Special Act.

Yes, "An Act Incorporating the Sterling Water Company" dated 1953 – the predecessor to the Town's water system.

3. Do you have any right to provide water service within your proposed exclusive service area by virtue of an Administrative Decision made by a State Agency? For example, the result of a DPH consent order or a PURA Docket? If yes, please provide a copy of the Administrative Decision.

No.

4. Do you have any right to provide water service within your proposed exclusive service area by virtue of a municipal law or ordinance, such as per a section in the Town Charter that establishes a Water Pollution Control Authority? If yes, please provide a copy.

The Act Incorporating the Sterling Water Company noted above has been incorporated into the Town Ordinances.

SECTION F. SYSTEM HYDRAULICS, INCLUDING POTENTIAL ELEVATIONS OR PRESSURE ZONES

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing service area, will you need to install additional storage tanks or pumping stations to do so? If yes, please provide a general description of needs.

Such infrastructure is not believed necessary at this time.

2. Describe your utility's or municipality's experience with system hydraulics, including managing elevation changes and pressure zones.

The town utilizes an outside company, WhiteWater, Inc., to perform daily operation of our water and sewer system.

SECTION G. ABILITY OF A WATER SYSTEM TO PROVIDE A PURE AND ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF WATER NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Please describe your current source water protection program for protecting current and future sources of supply.

The Town of Sterling's wells are surrounded by locked fencing. Access to keys is limited to necessary personnel only.

2. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via satellite systems, do you have experience owning and operating such systems? Please describe.

No. The Town's contract operator, WhiteWater, Inc., has experience running satellite systems.

3. Please describe your technical capacity to operate a public water system. Will you own and operate new systems, or do you expect to own new systems and retain a contract operator to perform the day to day tasks?

The Town of Sterling has a contract with WhiteWater Water & Waste Solutions, a subsidiary of RH White Companies, Inc. 253B Worcester Road, Charlton, MA 01507. They handle all day-to-day tasks, maintenance and repairs.

4. Please describe your managerial capacity to operate a public water system. What hierarchy is in place to make decisions? How quickly can/will decisions be able to be made during an emergency? Describe your experience with long term planning of infrastructure assets.

When an issue arises WhiteWater, Inc. is notified. If there is a repair that is beyond the normal scope of anticipated work they call the First Selectman. WPCA handles the long term planning.

5. Please describe your financial capacity to operate a public water system. Is capital funding for emergency repairs available? Is there a capital improvement budget available for long term asset replacement? What types of financial resources can be utilized to maintain a system? Is there financing available to retain consultants and contractors to design and implement repairs?

Capital funding is available via our "Rainy Day Fund" if needed.

6. If you currently provide public water service, please describe the number and types of complaints received by your utility for the past three years.

We have manganese in our water that requires us to flush the lines twice a year to reduce the occurrence of blackish water. We have received 2-3 complaints per year, WhiteWater, Inc. flushes the lines in between the semi-yearly flush as needed.

7. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing service area, please describe any water quality or reporting violations incurred over the past two years.

No known violations have occurred.

8. If you will serve any or all of your proposed exclusive service area via an extension of your existing service area, please describe any potential concerns related to disinfection byproducts that may need to be evaluated with any main extension.

We have no plans to expand at this time.

9. Please describe the type of rate structure envisioned within your proposed exclusive service area, and provide the estimated annual cost of water service for a family of four using 109,500 gallons¹ per year.

For residential service there is a flat fee of \$25.00 per quarter and a usage fee of \$5.00 per 1000 gallons of water used. In this example if the water were used equally over the year the bills would be \$161.88 per quarter for a yearly total of \$647.52.

¹ Calculated at 75 gallons per person per day x 4 people x 365 days in a year.

SECTION H. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

1. Are you aware of any other municipalities or water utilities who may declare for the same proposed exclusive service area, thereby creating a conflict? If yes, please describe.

We were informed at the WPCA meeting on 12/28/2016 that Connecticut DEEP had declared for State land in Sterling managed by that agency.

2. If yes, have you corresponded with said municipality or utility concerning this potential conflict? In an effort to avoid conflicts, public water systems and municipalities are encouraged to coordinate their efforts in declaring exclusive service areas. Contact the Eastern WUCC Officers for contact information.

Not to date.

CERTIFICATION

In accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 25-33h-1(k)(2), I understand that water utilities are responsible for providing adequate service as requested by consumers and under terms otherwise provided by statute, regulation and ordinance within their exclusive service area boundaries within a reasonable time frame. This may include but not be limited to development of supply sources, main extensions, or satellite management.

Furthermore, I, undersigned below, am presently aware of no reason why the utility represented on this form and any associated attachments would not be capable of providing pure and adequate supply of water to service the proposed exclusive service area in accordance with all applicable regulatory requirements, within a reasonable timeframe of requests by customers, should the proposed exclusive service area boundaries be accepted by the Eastern Water Utility Coordinating Committee and the Connecticut Department of Public Health pursuant to Public Act 85-535, as amended.

Signature of

Duly Authorized Representative: Russell M Gray Date: 1/10/17

Print or Type Name and Title: Russell M. Gray First Selectman