

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

Date:	November 18, 2014	Staff Contact:	Eric McPhee
Applicant PWS Name:	Norwich Public Utilities	Town:	Montville
Project Name:	Stony Brook Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project		
PWSID:	CT1040011		
Funding Source:	DWSRF		
State Funds:	\$1,523,000.00		

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: Norwich Public Utilities is improving the Stony Brook surface Water Treatment Plant (WTP) by retrofitting the existing non-buoyant filter media contact clarifiers with Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) clarifier units. The retrofit will be housed in a building addition adjoining the existing water treatment plant. The project also includes modifications to the interior and exterior piping as required to accommodate the proposed retrofit. There will be no change in the production capacity of the WTP.

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—The recommendations contained in the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) letter dated November 7, 2014 will be implemented as appropriate.
 - 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 addition appears to be located on Class III water company land; therefore a permit pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 25-32 is not required. The proposed project will enhance Norwich Public Utilities’ ability to treat the water from Stony Brook Reservoir prior to distribution to its customers.
 - b. Groundwater – No significant impact expected.
 - c. Flooding –The proposed project is not located within the 100-year flood zone on the community’s flood insurance rate map.
 - d. Erosion and Sedimentation— In order to protect wetlands and watercourses on and adjacent to the site, strict erosion and sediment controls should be employed during construction. The

Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control prepared by the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation in cooperation with DEEP is a recommended source of technical assistance in the selection and design of appropriate control measures. The 2002 revised edition of the Guidelines is available online at: [Erosion Control Guidelines](#).

3. Effect on natural land resources and formations, including coastal and inland wetlands, and the maintenance of in-stream flows—A significant portion of the proposed building addition is within the 50-foot upland review area, as depicted on the site plan provided. The DEEP recommends that the runoff from the roof of the proposed addition not be discharged directly to the wetland or the upland review area. The feasibility of infiltrating this runoff should be investigated, considering the suitability of the soils and availability of space. Inland wetlands and watercourses, with associated upland review areas, are regulated by the local inland wetlands agency, pursuant to section 22a-42 of the CGS. The local agency should be contacted regarding permit requirements.
4. Disruption or alteration of an historic, archeological, cultural or recreational building, object, district, site or surroundings—No significant impact expected.
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 no records of extant populations of Federally listed endangered or threatened species or species listed by the State, pursuant to section 26-306 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as endangered, threatened or special concern in the project area..
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 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 project is consistent with the policies of Growth Management Principle #5, Protect and Ensure the Integrity of Environmental Assets Critical to Public Health and Safety.
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.
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 –No significant impact expected.
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 comments provided by the DEEP dated November 7, 2014, 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 Norwich Public Utilities to ensure that the recommendations by the DEEP are implemented.

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.