

**State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

Date:	July 5, 2016	Staff Contact:	Eric McPhee
Applicant PWS Name:	Marlborough Municipal Water System	Town:	Marlborough
PWSID#:	CT0798013		
Project Name:	Marlborough Town Center Public Water System Phase II		
Funding Source:	Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP)		
State Funds:	\$500,000.00		

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: Currently, the Marlborough Town Center Water System consists of 4,100 linear feet of 12” water main, a well field, and storage capacity of 17,500 gallons. The Town of Marlborough has received a Small Town Economic Assistance Program Grant (STEAP) from the CT Office of Policy and Management to add approximately 1050 feet of 12” water main and additional storage tank capacity of 25,000 to 30,000 gallons.

The project will extend the water main west on Rte. 66 (East Hampton Road) to School Drive. Additional water main will be installed on School Drive to complete the water system distribution loop. Also, the project will include the installation of water main on Independence Drive to serve the existing businesses and a mixed-use zoned area.

There is a plume of pollution within the Marlborough Town Center from an identified site that that is migrating off-site affecting individual water supply wells of many properties. The completion of this project will resolve the long-term water quality issues relating to historic lead gasoline and more recent MTBE gasoline pollution migration to potable water supplies on individual properties within the Marlborough Town Center Area. Additionally, the properties within and adjacent to the project area lack a reliable water supply. These commercial and residential property owners routinely bring in water tankers from several days to weeks at a time to supply adequate potable water since their wells are unable to meet the daily demand of the property.

The completion of the water main loop to School Drive will allow water to circulate to prevent possible stagnation related water quality issues within the water system, while, providing adequate water pressure and water storage volume within the system and provide users with a consistently reliable clean potable water supply.

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 tank 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).

- 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 water storage tank is not located in a public drinking water source water area.
 - 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 - Stormwater 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.
- 3. Effect on natural land resources and formations, including coastal and inland wetlands, and the maintenance of in-stream flows – 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.
Town’s response: The Town of Marlborough has received approval for this project from the Town’s Inland Wetlands Commission.
- 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 (NDDB), has records of the red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), a species listed by the State pursuant to section 26-306 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) as a species of special concern, in the project area. If trees are to be removed to clear a site for the water tank, no tree cutting should be allowed during June or July in order to protect this species. In addition, to advance conservation efforts for various bat species, bat houses should be installed. The [Bat House Builder’s Handbook](#) follows this assessment. Additional guidance on bat houses can be found on-line at: [Bat Houses](#).
Town’s response: The Town agrees to install bat houses if trees are required to be removed for construction of the water tank.
- 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 project is located in a Village Priority Funding Area and is therefore consistent with the statewide Plan of Conservation and Development.

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. The Department’s Guidance for Utility Company Excavation should be used as a guide in developing the plan. The guidance is available on-line at: [Utility Guidance](#).
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 17, 2016, 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 Marlborough 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.