

# Draft Environmental Classification Document (ECD) For the Department of Housing

Prepared Pursuant to Section 22a-1a-4  
of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA)

**Effective: upon Approval by OPM**

**I. Typical Actions For Which Environmental Impact Evaluations Shall Always Be Prepared. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, instances where the State is obligating the following types of development through State funding or agreements:**

- a. Construction of new sewage treatment plants;
- b. Construction of hazardous waste disposal facilities;
- c. Construction of low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities; and
- d. Construction of coal-fired heating plants.

**II. Typical Actions Whose Degree of Impact Is Indeterminate, But Could Have Significant Environmental Impacts. When any of the following actions are proposed, including, but not limited to, instances where the State is obligating the following types of development through State funding or agreements, the sponsoring agency shall conduct an early public scoping process in accordance with Section 22a-1b(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS). The sponsoring agency shall take into consideration comments received and shall prepare a written memorandum that documents its findings and subsequent determination of the proposed action's environmental significance using the criteria set forth in Section 22a-1a-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Said memorandum shall be posted in the Environmental Monitor, unless the sponsoring agency determines that an environmental impact evaluation shall be prepared pursuant to CGS Section 22a-1b(c).**

- a. New construction, expansion or change in use of an existing facility, building or structure where 200 bedrooms or more are proposed to be created;
- b. Construction of new parking lots, garages, or additions thereto, that provide for an increase in capacity of 200 vehicles or more;
- c. Demolition or major alteration of any facility, building, structure or site listed or eligible to be listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places as determined by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) unless SHPO has approved such demolition or major alteration; and
- d. Any other action that may significantly affect the environment in an adverse manner except such actions are described in Section IV below. The significance of a likely consequence of an action should be assessed by the sponsoring agency and/or the participating agency, as the case may be, in connection with its setting, its probability of occurring, its duration, its irreversibility, its controllability, its geographic scope, its magnitude, and regulatory requirements.

**III. Any and all joint federal/state actions for which environmental assessments or environmental impact statements are prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, shall be recognized as meeting the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) requirements provided that such NEPA documents meet, and are circulated in accordance with, the CEPA document-equivalent requirements.**

**IV. Actions which do not warrant a review pursuant to CEPA. Notwithstanding the provisions of II.c above, the following actions have been shown by past agency experience to have impacts which are determinate, sufficiently limited in scope or covered under specific state or federal requirements other than CEPA or NEPA, and include a determination by the State Historic Preservation Office, whenever appropriate, that there is either *No Effect* or *No Adverse Effect* to historic, architectural or archaeological resources.**

- a. New construction, expansion or change in use of an existing facility, building or structure where fewer than 200 bedrooms are proposed to be created;
- b. Maintenance, repairs, or renovation of existing facilities, buildings or structures, as long as a change in use is not also planned;
- c. Demolition of facilities, buildings or structures except such demolition as is described in II.c above;
- d. Environmental site assessments and other testing for the purpose of determining environmental site conditions;
- e. Environmental site remediation and/or hazardous building materials abatement of a facility, building, or structure;
- f. Geotechnical investigations, site surveys, and other invasive and non-invasive investigations conducted for the purpose of determining the feasibility of a project;
- g. Development of drawings, specifications, plans and strategies;
- h. The installation or modification of environmental controls, mechanical systems and/or manufacturing processes to comply with federal and state environmental regulations;
- i. Minor road repairs, resurfacing of existing impervious surfaces, including de minimus expansions or realignment thereof, parking lot repairs, the repair and/or replacement of existing sidewalks, bikeways, or pedestrian paths, the installation or replacement of traffic signalization, roadway safety improvements, and streetscape features (such as street lights, benches, bicycle racks, and/or plantings);
- j. Replacement, repair and/or relocation of existing utilities and existing utility poles;
- k. Landscaping, storm water quality management and soil stabilization; and
- l. Any action that is substantially similar to those described in this Section IV.