

2018 JUN 14 P 3:08

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

DANNEL P. MALLOY

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 66

WHEREAS, the Water Planning Council (hereinafter WPC), established pursuant to Section 25-33o, is comprised of representatives for the four state agencies charged with oversight or regulatory responsibility of water management: the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Office of Policy and Management, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Department of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, Section 22a-352 required the WPC to prepare a state water plan for the management of the water resources by July 1, 2017 and then submit such plan to the General Assembly for review and approval; and

WHEREAS, the WPC prepared a Draft Connecticut State Water Plan in June 2017 and subsequently held a series of public meetings throughout the state and a public hearing on the draft plan; and

WHEREAS, after modifying the draft plan in response to hundreds of public comments, the WPC submitted the Final Connecticut State Water Plan (hereinafter the State Water Plan) to the General Assembly in January 2018 for its review and approval; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly held a public hearing on the State Water Plan but took no further action; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut cannot afford inaction on the State Water Plan that protects water quantity and quality for all of its current and future uses at a time when regulations, climate and economic conditions are changing; and

WHEREAS, one of the overarching goals of the State Water Plan submitted to the General Assembly has been to balance the use of water to meet all needs; and

WHEREAS, water is a public trust pursuant to Section 22a-15, in which the General Assembly has found and declared that there is a public trust in the air, water and other natural resources of the state of Connecticut and that each person is entitled to the protection, preservation and enhancement of the same; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 25-33c, the General Assembly has found that an adequate supply of potable water for domestic, commercial and industrial use is vital to the health and well-being of the people of the state and that readily available water for use in public water systems is limited and should be developed with a minimum of loss and waste; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 16a-24, the General Assembly has found and declared that the recognition of a plan for the conservation and development of the state's land and water resources can best be achieved through the establishment of a process for adoption and implementation of the state plan of conservation and development; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 22a-366, the General Assembly has recognized that the waters of Connecticut are a precious, finite and invaluable resource upon which there is an ever increasing demand for present, new and competing uses, and that an adequate supply of water for domestic, agricultural, industrial and recreational use and for fish and wildlife is essential to the health, safety and welfare of the people of Connecticut; and


WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 22-26aa, the General Assembly has found that the growing population and expanding economy of the state have had a profound impact on the state's ability to maintain and preserve agricultural land for farming and food production purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DANIEL P. MALLOY, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Connecticut Constitution and by the Statutes of the State of Connecticut do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

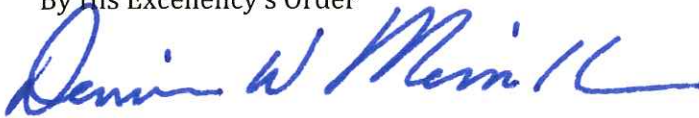
1. Effective immediately, the Water Planning Council to be guided by and implement the State Water Plan as submitted to the General Assembly in January 2018.
2. The Water Planning Council shall coordinate and work with the advisory group established pursuant to Section 25-33o(c) and any subcommittees established under such group to help implement the State Water Plan.
3. By December 1, 2018, the Water Planning Council to resubmit the State Water Plan as originally sent to the General Assembly in January 2018 for its review and approval.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 14TH day of June, 2018.


Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

By His Excellency's Order



Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

