

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Commissioner

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Lt. Governor

Drinking Water Section

### DWS Circular Letter #2016-32

To: Community Water Systems, Local Health Directors  
From: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section  
Date: December 30, 2016  
Subject: Connecticut Drinking Water Vulnerability Assessment

Handwritten signature of Lori Mathieu in blue ink.

The Department of Public Health's (DPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS) has recently entered an agreement with UConn's Connecticut Institute of Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) to help prepare a Drinking Water Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Plan (DWVAR Plan) to assess, identify, and address vulnerabilities for community water systems (CWS) in Connecticut's four coastal counties (Fairfield, New Haven, New London, and Middlesex). The DWVAR Plan will ensure preparedness and resiliency of CWS before, during, and after future storms and hazards, such as drought and climate change.

In order to create such a plan, CIRCA must first complete a vulnerability assessment of all CWS in the four counties, which will include the following:

- Assess the impacts of recent severe storms, including Superstorm Sandy
- Review vulnerability assessments prepared by large CWS
- Review vulnerabilities to CWSs' water quality and quantity
- Review and assess emergency contingency plans prepared by CWS serving more than 1,000 persons
- Review and assess critical facilities of all CWS in the four counties
- Review and assess existing CWS interconnections inside and outside of the four counties to identify new interconnections, pump stations, storage tanks, and system upgrades to best assure critical public infrastructure regional resiliency in the four coastal counties.

As part of the scope of work, CIRCA will be interviewing CWS and Local Health Directors to collect data needed to complete the DWVAR Plan.. This is a notification asking CWS and Local Health Directors to participate. Any information provided will assist the State in preparing for future storms and hazards. Additional information regarding the DWVAR Plan can be found on the DPH DWS website at [www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater](http://www.ct.gov/dph/publicdrinkingwater).

Cc: Deputy Commissioner Addo, DPH  
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