DWS Circular Letter 2018-26

TO: Community Water Systems

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section

DATE: September 7, 2018

SUBJECT: WebEOC for Community Water Systems

With hurricane season upon us and the threat of tropical storms building in the Atlantic, the Department wants to reinforce the importance for all Community Water Systems (CWS) to be prepared and ensure they can access WebEOC, the web-based emergency management information system used by the State of Connecticut to communicate with state and local emergency managers through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The DPH Statewide Drinking Water Status Controller Board will provide a vital link between all levels of government and the CWS and will be the main modality of communications utilized by the DWS in emergency response, therefore CWS will be expected to use WebEOC to report system status prior to, during and following emergency events.

The CT DPH, in collaboration with the Connecticut Emergency Management and Homeland Security, has conducted two very successful training sessions to prepare PWS in using WebEOC by providing “hands-on” instruction for set-up, data entry and communication management. So far, over 75% of CT’s large CWS (serving over 1,000) are credentialed and trained in using the WebEOC. No additional training sessions are scheduled at this time, however a webpage on WebEOC for PWS has been set-up to provide systems with WebEOC resources, access information and guidance materials.

CT’s public water systems serve over 2.9 million people in CT on a daily basis and are an essential DPH partner in public health preparedness. Emergency response, planning and alternate sources of backup power are a vital responsibility of PWS throughout the state and
keeping the water supply to CT’s residents is mission critical to the DPH to ensure our state’s health and essential functions.

If you have not attended a training session and need assistance in accessing WebEOC or the Drinking Water Status Controller Board, please visit the DPH Drinking Water Section website at https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Drinking-Water/DWS/Drinking-Water-Section-WebEOC. Should you have any questions, please contact Linda Ferraro at linda.ferraro@ct.gov or (860) 509-7333

Cc: Deputy Commissioner Addo
    Certified Water Operators
    Local Health Departments