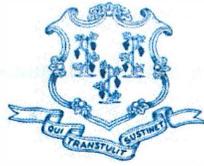


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
Nancy Wyman
Lt. Governor

Drinking Water Section

DWS Circular Letter #2016-02

TO: Community Public Water Systems, Related State Agencies, Councils of Governments
FROM: Lori Mathieu,  Public Health Section Chief, Drinking Water Section
DATE: January 14, 2016
RE: 2015 Commissioner of Public Health's High Quality Source (HQS) List /Call for New Sources and Improved Geographic Data for the 2016 HQS List Update

Connecticut General Statute (CGS) section 25-33q requires that *"the Commissioner of Public Health shall prepare a list designating sources or potential sources of water that require protection so that the highest quality waters are available to provide water for human consumption ... and update the list annually"*. The legislative intent of the High Quality Source (HQS) List is to delineate existing public water supply sources and potential future public water supply sources that require protection to ensure that the highest quality source waters are available for human consumption now and for the future.

The 2015 HQS list has been reorganized in anticipation of the imminent convening of the three Water Utility Coordinating Committees (WUCCs) and now includes additional groundwater supplies (all Community Public Water Supply wells) as well as improvements to the inventory of current and potential future interconnections. The updated list is available on the Department of Public Health (Department) website: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139&Q=514858>. Future sources are derived from water supply plans and other plans; these sources require review and approval before development is pursued.

The Department will be compiling and reviewing technical data for the 2016 update to the HQS List. **The Department urges public water systems, state agencies and councils of governments to very carefully review, and if appropriate, propose changes to this critical list.** The convening of the WUCCs, the upcoming state water plan, minimum streamflow standards, the forthcoming update to the Green Plan and future updates to the state Plan of Conservation and Development will all rely on this list. Accuracy is vitally important. Changes could consist of proposed additions to existing or potential future sources, or geographic improvements to potential future sources.

It is hoped that significant improvements to the geographic data associated with potential future sources can be made in the next update. Please submit any materials to be considered in the Department's review process for preparing the 2016 update to the HQS List by February 15, 2016 to dph.sourceprotection@ct.gov. Submission of digital GIS data is encouraged.



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cc: Ellen Blaschinski, Chief, Regulatory Services Branch;
Town Chief Elected Officials;
Local Health Directors;
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut;
Farmington River Watershed Association;
Connecticut Fund for the Environment;
Trust for Public Land;
Willimantic River Alliance;
CTCOG;
Water Utility Coordinating Committee Chairs

