**IWG Topical Sub-Workgroup Proposal**

**Topic**

Preparation of a draft Water Planning Council annual report to the General Assembly pursuant to CGS Sec. 22a-352.

**Background**

At its inception, the Water Planning Council (WPC) was required to file an annual report with the General Assembly pursuant to CGS Section 25-33o (since repealed). With subsequent legislation mandating the WPC oversee the implementation and periodic updates of a State Water Plan (SWP), P.A. 16-137 modified this annual reporting condition to require that “[o]n or before January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the Water Planning Council shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and development and energy and technology on the status of the development and implementation of the state water plan and any updates to such plan.”

A Topical Sub-Workgroup of the SWP Implementation Workgroup (IWG) was created in the summer of 2021 to develop a framework and methodology for tracking and annual reporting on SWP implementation. The workgroup determined it would not be feasible for it to develop an implementation tracking template for general use. One of its recommendations, however, was that a review team or sub-workgroup be formed to prepare a report to the Legislature. At its regular monthly meeting on September 6, 2022, the WPC requested that the IWG undertake formation of such a workgroup.

**Purpose**

To prepare a draft report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and development and energy and technology on the status of the development and implementation of the state water plan and any updates to such plan.

**Scope**

The last WPC annual report was submitted February, 2015. Rather than limit an annual report to 2022 efforts, it is proposed a draft report be compiled highlighting the WPC’s considerable progress relative to SWP implementation and planned update efforts since adoption of the SWP by the General Assembly in June, 2019.

The topical sub-workgroup will evaluate work undertaken by the WPC, its representative agencies (DEEP, PURA, DPH and OPM), the IWG and WPC Advisory Group (WPCAG). The time needed for this workgroup is estimated to be 3 months after proposal approval. A meeting schedule will be devised, as needed, to meet the short timeframe necessitated by the reporting requirement.

**Workgroup membership**

A chair of the workgroup will be determined at the September IWG meeting. PURA will provide administrative support, including the posting of agendas and minutes to the Public Meeting Calendar. The workgroup is open to all who have an interest in the subject matter and wish to contribute to the subject matter. A call for membership will be sent by e-mail to the WPC e-mail list upon workgroup approval. Membership should include, but not be limited to:

* A representative from the IWG
* A representative from the WPCAG
* A representative of each of the 4 WPC agencies
* An out-of-stream representative.
* An in-stream representative.
* additional interested parties as appropriate.

**Existing Resources**

WPC Approved Meeting minutes

Various IWG and WPCAG reports prepared for and accepted by the WPC

Prior WPC annual reports to the General Assembly