

## CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF

## **ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

## OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

79 ELM STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

**To:** Scott A. Hill - Manager of Bridges & Facilities

DOT - Office of Engineering, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington

From: David J. Fox - Senior Environmental Analyst Telephone: 860-424-4111

**Date:** December 6, 2013 **E-Mail:** david.fox@ct.gov

Subject: Atlantic Street Reconstruction, Stamford

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) has received the Notice of Scoping for proposed reconstruction of Atlantic Street and replacement of the Metro North railroad bridge in Stamford. It is anticipated that any potential impacts to the natural environment from this roadway improvement project would be minor in nature. The following comments are submitted for your information.

A portion of the proposed project area is within Connecticut's coastal boundary as defined by section 22a-94 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS). It is not expected that the project would result in any adverse impacts to coastal resources. The project is not within the 100-year flood zone on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map.

The Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) contains no records of any extant populations of Federally listed endangered or threatened species or species listed by the State, pursuant to section 26-306 of the CGS, as endangered, threatened or special concern in the project area. This information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the NDDB should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. The NDDB includes all information regarding critical biological resources available at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the DEEP's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available. Also be advised that this is a preliminary review and not a final determination. A more detailed review may be conducted as part of any subsequent environmental permit applications submitted to DEEP for the proposed site.

Development plans in urban areas that entail soil excavation should include a protocol for sampling and analysis of potentially contaminated soil. Soil with contaminant levels that exceed the applicable criteria of the Remediation Standard Regulations, that is not hazardous waste, is considered to be special waste. The disposal of special wastes, as defined in section 22a-209-1 of the RCSA, requires written authorization from the Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division prior to delivery to any solid waste disposal facility in Connecticut. If clean fill is to be segregated from waste material, there must be strict adherence to the definition of clean fill, as

provided in Section 22a-209-1 of the RCSA. In addition, the regulations prohibit the disposal of more than 10 cubic yards of stumps, brush or woodchips on the site, either buried or on the surface. A fact sheet regarding disposal of special wastes and the authorization application form may be obtained at: Special Waste Fact Sheet.

The Waste Engineering & Enforcement Division has issued a *General Permit for Contaminated Soil and/or Sediment Management (Staging & Transfer)*. It establishes a uniform set of environmentally protective management measures for stockpiling soils when they are generated during construction or utility installation projects where contaminated soils are typically managed (held temporarily during characterization procedures to determine a final disposition). Temporary storage of less than 1000 cubic yards of contaminated soils (which are not hazardous waste) at the excavation site does not require registration, provided that activities are conducted in accordance with the applicable conditions of the general permit. Registration is required for on-site storage of more than 1000 cubic yards for more than 45 days or transfer of more than 10 cubic yards off-site. A fact sheet describing the general permit, a copy of the general permit and registration forms are available on-line at: Soil Management GP.

The disposal of demolition waste should be handled in accordance with applicable solid waste statutes and regulations. Demolition debris may be contaminated with asbestos, lead-based paint or chemical residues and require special disposal. Clean fill is defined in section 22a-209-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) and includes only natural soil, rock, brick, ceramics, concrete and asphalt paving fragments. Clean fill can be used on site or at appropriate off-site locations. Clean fill does not include uncured asphalt, demolition waste containing other than brick or rubble, contaminated demolition wastes (e.g. contaminated with oil or lead paint), tree stumps, or any kind of contaminated soils. Landclearing debris and waste other than clean fill resulting from demolition activities is considered bulky waste, also defined in section 22a-209-1 of the RCSA. Bulky waste is classified as special waste and must be disposed of at a permitted landfill or other solid waste processing facility pursuant to section 22a-208c of the Connecticut General Statutes and section 22a-209-2 of the RCSA. Additional information concerning disposal of demolition debris is available on-line at: Demolition Debris.

Construction and demolition debris should be segregated on-site and reused or recycled to the greatest extent possible. Waste management plans for construction, renovation or demolition projects are encouraged to help meet the State's reuse and recycling goals. The *State Solid Waste Management Plan* outlines a goal of 58% recovery rate for municipal solid waste by the year 2024. Part of this effort includes increasing the amount of construction and demolition materials recovered for reuse and recycling in Connecticut. It is recommended that contracts be awarded only to those companies who present a sufficiently detailed construction/demolition waste management plan for reuse/recycling. Additional information concerning construction and demolition material management and waste management plans can be found on-line at: C&D Material Management and C&D Waste Management Plans.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact me.

cc: Robert Hannon, DEEP/OPPD Kristal Kallenberg, DEEP/OLISP