



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

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**To:** Eric McPhee - Supervising Environmental Analyst  
DPH - Drinking Water Section, 450 Capitol Avenue, MS#51WAT, Hartford

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

**Date:** April 7, 2016      **E-Mail:** [david.fox@ct.gov](mailto:david.fox@ct.gov)

**Subject:** Water Main Extension, North Stonington

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The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has reviewed the Notice of Scoping for the proposed installation of water mains along Rocky Hollow Road and Wyassup Road in North Stonington. The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

The water line installation will not encroach into the 100-year flood zone on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map. The Natural Resources Conservation Service's Soil Survey does not depict any regulated wetland soils along the proposed pipeline route. It is unknown whether the main will be installed under the roadway or shoulders or beyond previously filled areas. Any nearby inland wetlands or watercourses are regulated by the local inland wetlands agency, pursuant to section 22a-42 of the CGS. Many local agencies have established setback or buffer areas and require review and approval of activities within these upland areas adjacent to wetlands or watercourses. The local agency should be contacted regarding permit requirements.

In order to protect wetlands and watercourses, strict erosion and sediment controls should be employed during construction. In particular, any impact to the Shunock River, habitat for several state protected species, must be prevented. The *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* prepared by the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation in cooperation with DEEP is a recommended source of technical assistance in the selection and design of appropriate control measures. The 2002 revised edition of the Guidelines is available online at: [Erosion Control Guidelines](#).

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require an NPDES permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges. The construction stormwater general permit dictates separate compliance procedures for Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects (as defined in the permit). Locally Exempt construction projects disturbing over 1 acre must submit a registration form and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) to the Department. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of one to five acres are not required to register with the Department provided the development plan has been approved by a municipal land use agency and adheres to local erosion and sediment control land use regulations and the *CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of

five or more acres must submit a registration form to the Department prior to the initiation of construction. This registration shall include a certification by a Qualified Professional who designed the project and a certification by a Qualified Professional or regional Conservation District who reviewed the SWPCP and deemed it consistent with the requirements of the general permit. The SWPCP for Locally Approvable projects is not required to be submitted to the Department unless requested. The SWPCP must include measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management. A goal of 80 percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing post-construction stormwater management measures. The general permit also requires that post-construction control measures incorporate runoff reduction practices, such as LID techniques, to meet performance standards specified in the permit. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3018. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: [Construction Stormwater GP](#).

If the water mains are to be tested and disinfected, the discharge would be covered by the *General Permit for the Discharge of Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Wastewater* (DEP-PERD-GP-011). This general permit applies to all discharges of waters used to test the structural integrity of new or used tanks and pipelines that hold or transfer drinking water, sewage, or natural gas. The general permit contains pH, chlorine, oil and grease, and suspended solids limits which will need to be complied with during the testing and verified through monitoring. Registration is required to be submitted to the Department in order for the discharges to be authorized by this general permit. A fact sheet, the general permit which includes the registration form, titled Notice of Coverage, and the Application Transmittal form may be downloaded at: [Hydrostatic GP](#)

Development plans for utilities in urban areas that entail soil excavation should include a protocol for sampling and analysis of potentially contaminated soil. A soil management plan should be developed for the project to deal with soils during construction. The Department's *Guidance for Utility Company Excavation* should be used as a guide in developing the plan. The guidance is available on-line at: [Utility Guidance](#) .

Based upon the information contained within the Natural Diversity Data Base, DEEP does not anticipate negative impacts to any species listed as endangered, threatened or special concern, pursuant to section 26-306 of the CGS, as a result of the pipeline installation, provided that appropriate erosion and sediment controls are employed. The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that listed species may be encountered on site and that additional action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. This determination is good for one year. Please re-submit an NDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun on this project by March 21, 2017.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the Data Base should not be substitutes for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. 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.

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

cc: Robert Hannon, DEEP/OPPD  
Dawn McKay, DEEP/NDDB