

Environmental Monitor Archives



February 3, 2015

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No Environmental Impact Evaluations were submitted for publication in this edition.

State Land Transfers

1. **NEW!** Hartland

The next edition of the Environmental Monitor will be published on February 17, 2015.

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Scoping Notices

"Scoping" is for projects in the earliest stages of planning. At the scoping stage, detailed information on a project's design, alternatives, and environmental impacts does not yet exist. Sponsoring agencies are asking for comments from other agencies and from the public as to the scope of alternatives and environmental impacts that should be considered for further study. Send your comments to the contact person listed for the project by the date indicated.

The following Scoping Notices have been submitted for review and comment.

1. Notice of Scoping for: I-84 Hartford Project

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Hartford, CT

Address of Project Location: I-84 from approximately Hamilton Street to I-91 interchange in downtown Hartford.

Project Description: The I-84 Hartford Project was initiated by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) to address structural deficiencies, improve traffic operations and safety, and reduce congestion on I-84 mainline and its interchanges from approximately Hamilton Street to I-91 in the City of Hartford. At the same time, the I-84 Hartford Project will strive to reduce the highway's adverse impact and footprint on the City, while integrating it more closely into the regional multimodal and interstate transportation system, both existing and planned.

Project Map: [Click here to view a map of the project area.](#)

There will be a Public Scoping Meeting for this project at:

DATE: **January 21, 2015** (snow date **January 28, 2015**; same time and location)

TIME: Open House from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Presentation at 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Purpose of Meeting: The Scoping Meeting will present information about the project and solicit public comments on the project's purpose and need, preliminary alternatives, and areas of key environmental concern.

The study team will be available from 3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. and after the presentation until 7:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed project. The presentation will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Written comments from the public are welcomed. Public comments may be submitted verbally at the meeting, either in front of an audience, one-on-one with a stenographer, or in writing. The meeting facility is ADA accessible. Language assistance may be requested by contacting the Department of Transportation's Office of Communications (voice only) at (860) 594-3062 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public, and efforts will be made to respond to requests for assistance. The Scoping Initiation Packet and other scoping materials are available online at www.i84hartford.com.

While comments may be submitted at any time throughout the course of this project, **comments must be postmarked by February 20, 2015 to be part of the scoping record.**

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Richard Armstrong, Transportation Principal Engineer

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Address: P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131-7546

E-Mail: richard.armstrong@ct.gov (Please use the subject heading "I-84 HARTFORD Project")

Phone: (860) 594-3187

Other Information: I-84 Hartford Project Website, www.i84hartford.com

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about the scoping for this project please contact Mr. Armstrong as directed above.

¿Habla español? Visite www.i84hartford.com/ y use la función "Google Translate."

2. Notice of Scoping for East Side Water Storage Tank and Pump Station

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Southington

Addresses of Possible Project Locations: Flanders Street on the Southington High School Property, Smith Street ROW, and Chesterwood Terrace

Project Description: In order to address pressure deficiencies in the existing distribution system, the Southington Water Department (SWD) has proposed to install a 1.0 million gallon pre-stressed concrete tank, approximately 1,500 lineal feet of transmission main, approximately 550 lineal feet of twin distribution mains, a new pump station, and associated components. The tank is proposed to be located in wooded area to the east of the Smith Street right-of-way. A new gravel access road will be constructed from the end of Smith Street to the tank site and a small parking area will be provided in front of the tank. Twin 8-inch water pipes will be installed to connect the pump station proposed to be constructed on the Southington High School Property to the existing water mains on Flanders Street.

Project Maps: Click [here](#) for a map of the project area. Click [here](#) for a more detailed view of the proposed East Side Water Storage tank. Click [here](#) for a more detailed view of the proposed pump station.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday, February 20, 2015.**

Any person can ask the sponsoring agency to hold a Public Scoping Meeting by sending such a request to the address below. If a meeting is requested by 25 or more individuals, or by an association that represents 25 or more members, the sponsoring agency shall schedule a Public Scoping Meeting. Such requests must be made by **Friday, January 30, 2015.**

Written comments and/or requests for a Public Scoping Meeting should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Eric McPhee
Agency: Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section
Address: 410 Capitol Avenue, MS # 51WAT
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Fax: 860-509-7359
E-Mail: DPH.SourceProtection@ct.gov

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about the scoping for this project, contact:

Name: Patricia Bisacky
Agency: Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section
Address: 410 Capitol Avenue, MS # 51WAT
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Phone: 860-509-7333
Fax: 860-509-7359
E-Mail: Patricia.Bisacky@ct.gov

3. Notice of Scoping for Hawleyville Low-Pressure Sewer Extension

Municipality where proposed project would be located: Newtown

Project Location: Residential and commercial/industrial properties along Route 6 (Mount Pleasant Road), Route 25 (Hawleyville Road), Covered Bridge Road and Hillcrest Drive.

Project Description: As part of an economic development project, the Town of Newtown desires to provide developed and undeveloped parcels with access to public sewers as depicted in Figure 1. The purpose of the

project is to incentivize development within the Hawleyville Area pursuant to the goals established by the Town's Economic Development Commission and in accordance with Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO) Guidance Bulletin #94.

Utilizing a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant and benefit assessments not exceeding the appraised value of each property that connects to the system, the town intends to provide a low-pressure sanitary sewer system servicing the properties abutting the above listed roadways. Properties that are currently developed will be provided with a semi-positive displacement grinder pump and a service lateral extending from the grinder pump discharge to the low-pressure sewer main in the street. For commercial/industrial properties that are currently undeveloped, the intent of the project is to provide an adequately sized, low-pressure sewer connection stub to the property line to serve the property in the future. In addition, the Town intends to purchase and stockpile pumps capable of pumping the design flowrate based upon existing zoning for the undeveloped properties.

In order to convey the complete buildout scenario presented in the 1998 Hawleyville Area Facility Plan and based on the land use mix presented in the HVCEO Bulletin #94, a 6-inch dry forcemain will be installed in the same trench as the low pressure sewer, providing sufficient project budget exists. The 6-inch forcemain will extend from the proposed manhole directly in front of the Midway Home Estates to the intersection of Route 6 and Route 25 and be capped there. The purpose of this forcemain will be to convey future wastewater, which can drain via gravity along Mount Pleasant Road to the intersection with Route 25. The developers of the two large vacant properties would be responsible for siting and providing the pump station to serve their properties.

Wastewater collected from the proposed collection system will flow westward and discharge into an existing manhole directly upstream of the existing Toll Brothers Pump Station at 164 Mount Pleasant Road. From there, the wastewater flow is pumped along Route 6 to Bethel's collection system and ultimately discharged for treatment at the Danbury Wastewater Treatment Facility. In all, it is estimated that approximately 7,350 linear feet of low pressure sewer and approximately 500 linear feet of gravity sewer will be provided as part of this project.

Project Maps: [Click here to view a map of the proposed sewer infrastructure.](#)
[Click here to view a map of the sewer service area.](#)

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **March 6, 2015**

Any person can ask the sponsoring agency to hold a Public Scoping Meeting by sending such a request to the address below. If a meeting is requested by 25 or more individuals, or by an association that represents 25 or more members, the sponsoring agency shall schedule a Public Scoping Meeting. Such requests must be made by **February 13, 2015.**

Written comments and/or requests for a Public Scoping Meeting should be sent to:

Name: Carlos Esguerra
Agency: Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse
Address: 79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3756
Fax: 860-424-4067
E-Mail: carlos.esguerra@ct.gov

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about the scoping for this project, contact Mr. Esguerra, as directed above.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person with a disability who may need a communication aid or service may contact the agency's ADA Coordinator at 860-424-3194 or at deep.harmed@ct.gov. Any person with limited proficiency in English, who may need information in another language, may contact the agency's Title VI Coordinator at 860-424-

3035 or at deep.aoffice@ct.gov. ADA or Title VI discrimination complaints may be filed with DEEP's EEO Manager at (860) 424-3035 or at deep.aoffice@ct.gov.

4. Notice of Scoping for the Norwalk River Railroad Bridge, Norwalk

Project Title: Replacement of the Norwalk River Railroad Bridge (WALK Bridge)

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Norwalk, Connecticut

Project Description: The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) proposes to replace the Norwalk River Railroad Bridge, which carries the New Haven Line Railroad over the Norwalk River in the city of Norwalk. The bridge was built in 1896 and is a truss swing bridge with three fixed spans and one movable span. Total length is 565 feet. The activities associated with total replacement of the existing bridge include the following:

- Complete replacement of the entire bridge
- Complete replacement of the fender system
- Complete replacement of the high towers
- Replacement of the track rails and ties
- Signal and communications replacements which will include the installation of a new cable spanning the river either via submarine or aerial path

The purpose of this project is to replace the existing, deteriorated bridge with a resilient bridge structure which will enhance the safety and reliability of commuter and intercity passenger rail service, offer operational flexibility and ease of maintenance, as well as provide for increased capacity and efficiencies of rail transportation along the New Haven Line/ Northeast Corridor.

Project Maps: Click [here](#) to view a map and an aerial photograph of the project area.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

There will be a Public Scoping Meeting for this project at:

DATE: Tuesday, **February 24, 2015** (In case of inclement weather: Thursday, February 26, 2015 same time and place)

TIME: 7:00 pm

PLACE: City Hall Community Room, 125 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

NOTES: The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities (ADA accessible). Deaf and hearing impaired persons and those with limited English proficiency wishing to attend this meeting and requiring an interpreter may make arrangements by contacting the CTDOT's Office of Communications at 860-594-3062 (voice only) at least five working days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public.

Additional information about the project can be viewed in person at CTDOT's Office of Engineering, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, Connecticut, during regular office hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Mark Alexander, Transportation Assistant Planning Director

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Policy and Planning

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, Connecticut, 06131

E-Mail: dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about this project, contact:

Name: Mr. John Hanifin, Transportation Supervising Engineer

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, Connecticut, 06131

Phone: (860) 594-2899

E-Mail: John.Hanifin@ct.gov

Post-Scoping Notices: Environmental Impact Evaluation Not Required

This category is required by the October 2010 revision of the [Generic Environmental Classification Document](#) for State Agencies. A notice is published here if the sponsoring agency, after publication of a scoping notice and consideration of comments received, has determined that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) does not need to be prepared for the proposed project.

The Following Post-Scoping Notices have been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Post-Scoping Notice for: Deep River Water Treatment Plant and Transmission Main Replacement, Meter and Microturbine

Municipalities where project will be located: Lebanon and Bozrah

CEPA Determination: On June 7, 2011 the Department of Public Health (DPH) published a [Notice of Scoping](#) to solicit public comments for this project in the *Environmental Monitor*.

Based on the [comments](#) provided by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) dated July 8, 2011, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA. The DPH will coordinate with Norwich Public Utilities to ensure that the recommendations by the DEEP will be implemented.

The agency's conclusion is documented in a [Memorandum of Findings and Determination](#) and an [Environmental Assessment Summary](#).

If you have questions about the project, you can contact the agency at:

Name: Mr. Eric McPhee

Agency: Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section

Address: 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #51WAT
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Phone: 860-509-7333

Fax: 860-509-7359

E-Mail: DPH.SourceProtection@ct.gov

What happens next: The DPH expects the project to go forward. This is expected to be the final notice of the project to be published in the *Environmental Monitor*.

2. Post-Scoping Notice for: Mohegan Park Water Tank

Municipality where project will be located: Norwich

CEPA Determination: On August 7, 2012, the Department of Public Health (DPH) published a [Notice of Scoping](#) to solicit public comments for this project in the *Environmental Monitor*.

Based on the [comments](#) provided by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) dated September 5, 2012, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA. The DPH will coordinate with Norwich Public Utilities to ensure that the recommendations by the DEEP will be implemented.

The agency's conclusion is documented in a [Memorandum of Findings and Determination](#) and an [Environmental Assessment Summary](#).

If you have questions about the project, you can contact the agency at:

Name: Mr. Eric McPhee

Agency: Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Section

Address: 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #51WAT
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Phone: 860-509-7333

Fax: 860-509-7359

E-Mail: DPH.SourceProtection@ct.gov

What happens next: The DPH expects the project to go forward. This is expected to be the final notice of the project to be published in the *Environmental Monitor*.

EIE Notices

After Scoping, an agency that wishes to undertake an action that could significantly affect the environment must produce, for public review and comment, a detailed written evaluation of the expected environmental impacts. This is called an [Environmental Impact Evaluation](#) (EIE).

No Environmental Impact Evaluation has been submitted for publication in this edition.

State Land Transfer Notices

Connecticut General Statutes [Section 4b-47](#) requires public notice of most proposed sales and transfers of state-owned lands. The public has an opportunity to comment on any such proposed transfer. Each notice includes an address where comments should be sent. [Read more about the process.](#)

The Following State Land Transfer Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. NOTICE OF PROPOSED LAND TRANSFER

Complete Address of Property: Portion of 64 Center Street, Hartland

Number of acres to be transferred: 2.439 acres (in exchange for 11.275 acres)

Click to view [map](#) of property location

Description of Property

Brief Description of Historical and Current Uses: In 2009, during a routine inspection of Tunxis State Forest, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP" or the "Department")

discovered that there were encroachments onto State land by Daniel Nelson, who lives at 58 West Center Street, Hartland. The encroachments included a crushed stone driveway, a frame garage, a canopy, concrete pavers, man-made ponds, a stone retaining wall, clay and PVC piping, flood lights, and an ATV trail.

While there were several encroachments, they did not extend very far onto State land. Further, DEEP believes that Mr. Nelson did not knowingly encroach. Removing the encroachments, especially the retaining wall and the manmade ponds that do not extend far onto State land would be extremely difficult and expensive.

In order to resolve this issue, an exchange was requested to eliminate the need to remove the encroaching structures. DEEP evaluated this request pursuant to DEEP's 2008 Directive – Exchanges of Land or Interests in Land (the "Directive"). The Directive states that land or interests in land shall not be exchanged, except in extenuating circumstances and only when all of the following criteria are met:

- The exchange is not contrary to the terms or conditions under which the acquisition, gift, or bequest of such land or interest in land was accepted;
- The land or interest in land has been evaluated by Department personnel and determined not to be integral or significant to the resource management programs of the Department;
- Appraisals have determined that the fair market value of the land or interest in land to be received by the Department is equal to or greater than the fair market value of the land or interests in land being conveyed out by the Department;
- The land or interests in land to be received by the Department provides substantially greater utility to the resource management programs of the Department than the land or interests in land being conveyed out by the Department;
- The Commissioner has determined that any proposed use of the land or interests in land to be exchanged, if known at the time of the exchange, is consistent with the State Conservation and Development Policies Plan; and
- Except in extraordinary circumstances, the land or interest in land being conveyed out by the Department will be conveyed subject to: 1) a conservation or other easement or similar encumbrance in favor of the state ensuring that any restriction on such land or interest in land that was in effect immediately prior to the exchange remains in effect after the exchange; and 2) a reverter clause stipulating that the land or interest in land will revert back to the DEEP if the easement or similar encumbrance is violated or not upheld. Any finding of extraordinary circumstances shall not apply to land subject to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 23-8a.

Mr. Nelson proposed exchanging approximately 11.275 acres of other lands he owns in Hartland that abuts Peoples State Forest and is located off of Center Hill Road for approximately 2.439 acres of the State-owned Tunxis State Forest.

DEEP evaluated this proposal and determined by that:

- the to be conveyed that has been impacted by the encroachment is not subject to any terms or conditions that would prevent an exchange;
- the land to be conveyed is not integral or significant to the resource management programs or other DEEP business purposes, and the land being exchanged provides substantially greater utility to DEEP's resource management programs;
- the value of the land being exchanged is greater than that to be conveyed; and
- the land being conveyed by DEEP will be conveyed with a conservation restriction and reverter clause.

The property to be transferred contains the following:

- Buildings in use
- Buildings not in use
- Wooded land
- Nonagricultural fields
- Active agriculture
- Paved areas
- Ponds, streams or other water

Water Supply: Public water supply On-site well Unknown

Waste Disposal: Served by sewers On-site septic system Unknown

The Connecticut Conservation and Development Policies Plan identifies the property as being in the following categories:

- Regional Center
- Neighborhood Conservation Area
- Growth Area
- Rural Community Center
- Rural Area
- Conservation Area
- Preservation Area

Existing Preserved Open Space

The property is in the following municipal zone:

Not zoned

Residential

Industrial

Commercial

Institutional

Other:

Not known

Value of property, if known: \$15,000

If checked, value is not known.

Type of Sale or Transfer:

Sale or transfer of property in fee

Sale or transfer of partial interest in the property (such as an easement). Description of interest:

Proposed recipient, if known: Daniel Nelson

Proposed use by property recipient, if known: Continue existing residential and recreational uses with no additional development, pursuant the conservation restriction and reverter clause described below.

The agency is proposing to transfer the property with the following restrictions on future uses:

The property will be transferred with a conservation restriction preventing any additional improvements on the property and a reverter clause that will cause the conveyed land to revert to DEEP if the conservation restriction is violated or not upheld.

Reason the State of Connecticut is proposing to transfer this property: The property owner is willing to transfer 11.275 acres of other nearby land, with an appraised value of \$65,000, which will provide better access to a section of Tunxis State Forest in exchange for 2.439 acres of land valued at \$15,000 that is of substantially less utility, even before impacted by an encroachment. The 11.275 acres are shown on the survey by following this [link](#).

Comments from the public are welcome and will be accepted until the close of business on: **March 5, 2015**

Comments may include information that you have about significant natural resources or recreation resources on the property, as well as your recommendations for means to preserve such resources.

Written comments* should be sent to:

Name: Patrick O'Brien
Title: Bureau of Assets Management
Agency: Office of Policy and Management
Address: 450 Capitol Avenue MS#52 ASP
Hartford, CT 06106-1379
E-Mail: Patrick.Obrien@ct.gov

***E-Mail submissions are preferred.**

What Happens Next

When this comment period closes, the proposed land transfer can take one of three tracks:


1. If no public comments are received, the sale or transfer can proceed with no further public comment and no further notices in the Environmental Monitor, unless the Department of Environmental Protection elects to conduct a review of the property (see #3).
2. If public comments are received, the Office of Policy and Management will respond to those comments. The comments and responses will be published in the Environmental Monitor. Fifteen days after publication of the comments and responses, the proposed sale or transfer can proceed,

unless the Department of Environmental Protection elects to conduct a review of the property (see #3).

3. If the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) elects to conduct a further review of the property, it may submit to the Office of Policy and Management a report with recommendations for preserving all or part of the property. The report and recommendations will be published in the Environmental Monitor, and there will be a 30-day public comment period. The DEP will publish its responses to any comments received and its final recommendation about the property in the Environmental Monitor. The Office of Policy and Management will then make the final determination as to the ultimate disposition of the property, and will publish that determination in the Environmental Monitor. Fifteen days after publication of that final determination, the sale or transfer can proceed.

To find out if this proposed transfer is the subject of further notices, check future editions of the Environmental Monitor. Sign up for e-alerts to receive a reminder e-mail on publication dates.

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