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# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

# 79 ELM STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

**To:** Cameron Walden - Supervising Sanitary Engineer

DPH - Drinking Water Section, 410 Capitol Avenue, MS#51WAT, Hartford

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

**Date:** July 8, 2011 **E-Mail:** [david.fox@ct.gov](mailto:david.fox@ct.gov)

**Subject:** Transmission Main, Lebanon & Microturbine, Bozrah

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has received the Notice of Scoping for the proposed project to replace 3500 feet of 30-inch transmission main along Reservoir and Camp Mooween Roads in Lebanon and install a microturbine at 70 Fitchville Road in Bozrah. The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

A microturbine is proposed to be installed to replace an existing pressure reducing valve on Fitchville Road in Bozrah. The Department fully supports this type of minimal impact energy generation project. Hydropower development projects fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Exemptions from licensing are authorized for projects with generating capacities 15 megawatts or less for non-municipal and 40 megawatts or less for a municipal project utilizing a conduit that has been constructed primarily for purposes other than power production, such as a water main. Additional information concerning the process of obtaining the exemption can be found at the FERC website at: [FERC Exemption](http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/licensing/exemptions.asp).

The proposed route of the 30-inch replacement water main borders Mooween State Park, which fronts Camp Mooween Road and is southeast of the roadway. The new pipe should be installed either within the roadway or on the opposite side of the road to avoid encroachment onto state property.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Soil Survey depicts a band of Ridgebury, Leicester & Whitman extremely stony soils, a regulated wetland soil associated with the unnamed watercourse flowing into Red Cedar Lake that would be crossed by the proposed route of the 30” water main. It is unknown whether the main will be installed under the roadway or shoulders, with no direct wetland impacts, or beyond previously filled areas. If there are any undeveloped areas within the area to be impacted, it is recommended that a certified soil scientist perform a reconnaissance of the site in order to determine whether there are any areas which would be regulated as wetlands or watercourses as defined by section 22a-38 (15) and (16) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), respectively. If the reconnaissance identifies regulated areas, they should be delineated. Any inland wetlands or watercourses at the site 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 any wetlands and watercourses adjacent to the site, strict erosion and sediment controls should be employed during construction. Additionally, all silt fencing should be removed after soils are stable so that reptile and amphibian movement between uplands and wetlands is not restricted. The *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* prepared by the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation in cooperation with DEP is a recommended source of technical assistance in the selection and design of appropriate control measures. The 2002 revised edition of the Guidelines, published as DEP Bulletin 34 may be obtained at the DEEP bookstore, either by telephone 860-424-3555 or online at: [DEEP Bookstore](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2688&q=322396&depNav_GID=1511)

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed require a permit pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26. The Permitting & Enforcement Division has issued a *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEP-PERD-GP-015) that will cover these discharges. For projects disturbing five or more acres, registration describing the site and the construction activity must be submitted to the Department prior to the initiation of construction. A stormwater pollution control plan, including measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management, must be prepared. For sites where more than 10 acres will be disturbed, the plan must be submitted to the Department. A goal of 80 percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing stormwater management measures. For construction projects with a total disturbed area between one and five acres, no registration is required as long as the project is reviewed by the town and receives written approval of its erosion and sediment control measures and it adheres to the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. If no review is conducted by the town or written approval is not provided, the permittee must register with the Department. 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](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2709&q=324212&depNav_GID=1643#StormwaterConstructionGP).

If the water line is to be pressure 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](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2709&q=324212&depNav_GID=1643#HydrostaticGP)

The Natural Diversity Data Base, maintained by DEEP, contains no records of 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 at either project area. This information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Also, be advised that this is a preliminary review. A more detailed review may be conducted as part of any subsequent environmental permit applications submitted to DEEP for the proposed site. Consultation with the Natural Diversity Data Base should not be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. The extent of investigation by competent biologist(s) of the flora and fauna found at the site would depend on the nature of the existing habitat(s). If field investigations reveal any Federal or State listed species, please contact the DEEP Geologic & Natural History Survey at 860-424-3540.

The proposed transmission main project area is not within the 100-year flood zone on the community’s Flood Insurance Rate Map. The route of the water main is designated Rural Lands, Conservation Area and Existing Preserved Open Space in the *Conservation and Development Policies Plan for Connecticut 2005-2010*.

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

Beth Brothers, DEEP/LAM