STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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Peter Hearn Executive Director February 8, 2021

Co-chairs Cohen and Borer, Vice-Chairs Slap and Gresko, Ranking Members Miner and Harding, and other distinguished members of the Environment Committee

Re: Raised Bill 839 Before the Environment Committee, An Act Concerning Electronic Documents and Pesticide Regulation in the State.

Honorable Members,

The Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality (Council) supports Raised Senate Bill 839 regarding electronic documents and pesticide regulation in the state. It would require that information contained in each notice of pesticide application that is filed with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) be entered in an electronic, searchable spreadsheet and that each such spreadsheet shall be made available for members of the public to search electronically.

DEEP has made progress in automating the uploading of other documents into its online document search portal. This suggests that DEEP has the capacity to comply with this requirement.

This provision of the proposed Raised Bill is consistent with the Council's recommendation in the Council's special report, Environmental Enforcement in Connecticut, Part 1: Pesticides to "implement electronic reporting and recordkeeping".

The Council is available to answer any questions or provide additional information should the Committee desire.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Hearn,

Executive Director

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