



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Keith Ainsworth  
Acting Chair

October 25, 2023

Alicea Charamut

The Honorable Deborah Richards  
First Selectman  
Eastford Town Office Building  
16 Westford Road  
Eastford, CT 06424

Christopher Donnelly

David Kalafa

[firstselectman@townofeastford.com](mailto:firstselectman@townofeastford.com)

Kip Kolesinskas

Re: Ashford Road Bridge over Bigelow Brook

Matthew Reiser

Dear First Selectman Richards,

Denise Rodosevich

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) received a notice regarding the proposed bridge replacement project for the Ashford Road Bridge over the Bigelow Brook in Eastford. The Council notes that the Ashford Road Bridge is located within a Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) recognized drinking water supply watershed which contributes to the Windham Water Works, and it is adjacent to one of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) active trout stocking sites. Consequently, the Council recommends that 1) the construction contractors adhere to the DPH's General Construction Best Management Practices for Sites within a Drinking Water Supply Area<sup>1</sup>; 2) the bridge designers/construction company consult with DEEP's Fisheries Division for guidance to minimize and mitigate any potential adverse impacts on fisheries resources; and 3) the Eastford Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission carefully review the proposed project, at the appropriate time, for consistency with the Town's Wetland Regulations.

Charles Vidich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta  
Executive Director

Thank you for your consideration of the Council's comments.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta  
Executive Director

c:  
Marc Byrnes, DOT, Transportation Supervising Engineer  
James Barrows, DOT, Transportation Engineer 3  
Michelle M. Rame, DOT, Transportation Engineer 3  
Peter Aarrestad, DEEP, Director, Inland Fisheries Division  
Eric Mcphee, DPH, Drinking Water Section, Supervising Environmental Analyst

<sup>1</sup> [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/drinking\\_water/pdf/BMPFactSheetpdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/drinking_water/pdf/BMPFactSheetpdf.pdf)