



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

March 22, 2023

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chair

Alicea Charamut

David Kalafa

Kip Kolesinskas

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Paul Aresta
Executive Director

John Burt
Town Manager
45 Fort Hill Rd.
Groton, CT 06340

Re: Groton Long Point Road Bridge, Groton

Dear Mr. Burt,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) received a letter/Press Release regarding the proposed bridge replacement project for the Groton Long Point Road Bridge over Palmer Cove in Groton. The Council notes that the bridge is located within a Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) buffer area¹ and the Coastal Boundary.² Consequently, the proposed project has the potential to impact state-listed species and coastal resources. The Council recommends that the Town of Groton and/or the bridge designers/construction company consult with DEEP's NDDDB and Land and Water Resources Division for guidance to minimize and mitigate any potential adverse effects on state-listed species; and coastal resources and uses, consistent with Connecticut's Coastal Management Act.

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

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

c: Marc Byrnes, Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT), Transportation Supervising Engineer
James Barrows, DOT, Project Engineer
Greg Hanover, P.E. Director of Public Works, Town of Groton

¹ Connecticut DEEP, Natural Diversity Data Base and Environmental Reviews; <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/NDDDB/Natural-Diversity-Data-Base-and-Environmental-Reviews>

² Connecticut DEEP, Coastal Resources; <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Coastal-Resources/Coastal-Management/Coastal-Management>