



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 26, 2026

Kim Czapla
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Kim.Czapla@ct.gov

Re: Consolidated Notice of Tentative Determination and Notice of Hearing for the Reclassifications of Groundwater in Ansonia, Cromwell, and Waterbury

Dear Kim Czapala,

Please find below comments regarding the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) proposed reclassification of groundwater in Ansonia, Cromwell, and Waterbury.

On August 10, 2026, the Council on Environmental Quality (Council) received notice of DEEP's intent to reclassify three groundwater classifications from GA to GB. The three areas proposed for reclassification are an 8.56-acre parcel at 31-165 Olson Drive in Ansonia; a 1.46-acre parcel at 25 and 29 Wall Street and River Road in Cromwell; and a 4.59-acre parcel at 92 Brookside Road in Waterbury.

The Council notes that GB groundwater classifications are not required to meet drinking water standards and the proposed change in the groundwater designation removes requirements to maintain potable groundwater quality. The Council recommends that DEEP undertake the following:

- notify the appropriate local health departments/districts of the reclassification of these areas from GA to GB so that no well permits are issued for on-site drilling in the GB areas;
- notify the appropriate public water systems serving these areas to help ensure that no cross-connections between contaminated groundwater and drinking water supplies could occur;
- require testing for nearby downgradient drinking water wells to ensure they are not adversely impacted by any pollutants that might be found at or near the reclassified parcels; and
- require verification that structures located on or adjacent to the reclassified parcels have not been impacted by volatilizing pollutants, which could threaten indoor air quality. If any exceedances are found, the responsible parties should be required to remedy the potential hazard and/or remediate the groundwater, regardless of classification, to eliminate any threat to public health.

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

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

Timothy J. Bishop
Acting Chair

Linda Bowers

Christopher Donnelly

Cinzia Lettieri

Aimee Petras

Denise Rodosevich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta
Executive Director