

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner



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Lt. Governor

### Environmental Health Section

November 28, 2018

Vincent Lee, DECD-Office of Capital Projects  
450 Columbus Boulevard 4th Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

### RE: **Notice of Scoping for the West Haven Waterfront Redevelopment Project**

Dear Mr. Lee:

A review of the scoping notice reveals a proposal to construct 57 individual properties along First Avenue in West Haven. Some of these properties will be slated for residential use. When a new building is to be constructed as part of a project plan, radon resistant features should be included for occupied spaces at or near ground level to decrease the risk of radon-induced lung cancer for the occupants in the lower level of the building.

The following summarizes the Department's position with regard to radon:

#### **A. Radon**

The Connecticut Department of Public Health Radon Program recommends that during the construction of an occupied building, radon resistant features should be built into the infrastructure of the building.

The list below describes the basic components of radon resistant new construction:

- A gas permeable layer, such as 4-inch gravel, placed beneath the slab to allow soil gases to move freely underneath the building
- Plastic sheeting over the gas permeable layer and under the slab to help prevent soil gases from entering the home
- Sealing and caulking all openings in the foundation floor to reduce soil gas entry



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- A vent pipe, such as 6 inch PVC pipe, to run from the gas permeable layer through the building to the roof to safely vent soil gases above the building
- An electrical junction box installed in case an electric venting fan is needed later

The new building should be tested for radon after construction is completed. If radon results are at or above 4.0 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), the existing system should be activated by installing an in-line fan.

Additional inquiries on the subject of radon resistant new construction can be directed to Allison Sullivan, Environmental Analyst 3, of the Radon Program at 860-509-7299.

Sincerely,



MS, MPH

Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H.  
Chief, Environmental Health Section