

**Record of Decision
Environmental Impact Evaluation**

Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority

Regional Composting Facility

Kent, CT

March 2026

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document constitutes the Record of Decision (ROD) for the August 2025 Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act to evaluate the potential impacts of the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) constructing a solar-powered regional in-vessel composting facility at the Kent transfer station to process food scraps on-site. The facility would be situated on land owned by the Town of Kent at 44 Maple Street in the Town of Kent.

1.1 Project Scoping

In April 2025, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) awarded a Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant to HRRA for the proposed project. As the proposed project was receiving state funding and would constitute a new regional solid waste facility, the CEPA review process was triggered.

The EIE included a Scoping Notice published in the Environmental Monitor on 5/20/2025 and 6/3/2025. The comment period of the Scoping Notice closed on 6/19/2025. No comments were received during the scoping period. A Post Scoping Notice was then published in the Environmental Monitor on 7/22/2025.

1.2 Public Review of the EIE

A Notice of the Availability of the EIE was published in the Environmental Monitor on 9/16/2025, 10/7/2025, and 10/21/2025. A Revised Notice of Availability of the EIE was published in the Environmental Monitor on 11/18/2025, 12/2/2025, 12/16/23, 1/20/26, 2/3/26, 2/17/26, and 3/3/26. A Notice of Availability was published in the Waterbury Republican-American newspaper on 11/25/2025 and 12/2/25. A Revised Notice of the Availability of the EIE was published in the Waterbury Republican-American newspaper on 1/23/26, 1/30/26, and 2/6/26. An electronic copy of the EIE was made available on the Environmental Monitor and on DEEP's dedicated Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant Program website. In addition, hard copies of the EIE were filed at the Town Clerk's Office in the Town of Kent and the Kent Public Library, as well as at DEEP department headquarters in Hartford, to be made available for public review and comment.

The public comment period of the EIE closed on 3/6/26. Documentation of EIE notifications and public comments is included herein.

Section 22a-1a-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires that a sponsoring agency, in this case DEEP, review all comments submitted on its EIE and any other pertinent information it obtains following circulation of the EIE and conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation if it determines that such action is appropriate. In all cases, the sponsoring agency must prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of the EIE and forward such responses as well as any supplemental materials or amendments and all comments received on the evaluation, to the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM). The sponsoring

agency must prepare a concise public Record of Decision (ROD), taking into consideration its findings in the EIE and comments received. The ROD must then be forwarded to OPM for their review and finding of consistency. The subject document comprises the public record of decision for this project.

2.0 RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Written comments on the EIE were received from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), as follows:

1. Council on Environmental Quality – Letter dated 9/24/2025 from Paul Aresta, Executive Director

Responses to comments are addressed individually below.

2.1 Council on Environmental Quality

Review Comment No. 1:

The EIE states that “during operation of the in-vessel composter, there will be noise from the composting equipment itself, as well as from support equipment and vehicles such as front-end loaders” and “from an industrial grinder.” While the EIE states that “operational noise is not expected to disturb residents and other sensitive noise receptors above current levels,” it is unclear if a noise analysis was completed for the proposed equipment that could confirm compliance with applicable noise regulations at the adjacent noise zones. It is also unclear where the residents and other sensitive noise receptors are located in relation to the proposed facility. It would be helpful to include information regarding the calculated noise level for all equipment likely to be operated, and the distance from the proposed equipment to the “residents and other sensitive noise receptors” at the adjacent noise zones. The EIE also states that “with the implementation of proper mitigation measures, the potential operational noise impacts will be less than significant”; however, it is unknown what the operational mitigation measures would be since they are not described or listed in section 4.14.

Response to Review Comment No. 1:

Based upon this review comment, additional noise analysis has been completed and is included in the attached Appendix D, and has been incorporated into the Final Record Copy of the EIE, which is included in the attached Appendix E. The findings of this analysis are that construction period noise levels are expected to range from 46.3 to 55.8 decibels. Therefore, the noise impacts are expected to be less than significant, especially with the implementation of the BMP limiting hours of construction to 7:00am to 10:00pm. For the operational period, noise levels are expected to range from 51.3 to 60.8 decibels. Given that the maximum expected noise levels based upon this analysis

are below the state regulations' threshold, the noise impacts of the proposed action during the operational period are expected to be less than significant. To mitigate any potential night impacts, the operation should be required to only operate during the times of 7:00am to 10:00pm daily.

Review Comment No. 2:

The EIE states that “the site of the proposed action is located within a Natural Diversity Area that is closely associated with the nearby Housatonic River” and “it is not clear what species and how many species, if any, are associated with the proposed site.” Further, the EIE states that “three (3) species of note are indicated as intersecting with the site of the proposed action, although the species themselves are not identified by name.” Consultation with the NDDDB should be a first step in complying with the requirement of the RCSA Section 22a-1a-3(b)(5) to consider the “effect on natural communities and upon critical plant and animal species and their habitat; interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species;” when performing a review in accord with the regulations that apply to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA).

Response to Review Comment No. 2:

Based upon this review comment, a formal NDDDB application was submitted as part of the preparation of this EIE, and an approval letter was obtained and is attached in the Appendix D of this Record of Decision. The NDDDB approval letter indicated that four (4) species of concern, the Wood Turtle, Red Bat, Silver-Haired Bat, and Purple Martin have been documented within the project area or in close proximity to the site of the proposed action. A series of specific recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) were identified in the approval letter that would ensure that any impacts from the proposed action would be not significant to these species. These BMPs are also included in the attached Appendix D.

It should be noted that one of the BMPs recommended for the Purple Martin is “to benefit this species, protect wetlands including a 300ft buffer around wetlands...” While the site of the proposed action does not contain any wetlands soils or delineated wetlands, the area of disturbance for the project is located within approximately 215 feet of an area of wetland soils. However, DEEP NDDDB staff have confirmed that the recommended 300 foot buffer refers to avoidance of new site disturbance. The entire site of the proposed action has been previously disturbed by development and operations associated with the Kent Transfer Station and the Town of Kent Public Works Department, so no new site disturbance will occur as a result of the proposed action.

If the proposed impacted area is altered during design, DEEP/NDDDB program staff would be consulted for additional measures that may be necessary to provide the required protection for these species.

Review Comment No. 3:

The Council notes that the EIE includes several references to a qualitative assessment that certain potential impacts to environmental and community resources would be “less than significant”. The provision of quantitative data could assist the public and other individuals to assess the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to environmental and community resources listed in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) Section 22a-1a-3(b).

Response to Review Comment No. 3:

Quantitative data has been included in the EIE to the greatest extent possible. However, additional quantitative data has been provided for **Section 4.5 Noise, Vibrations, and Odors** through a more detailed quantitative noise analysis in response to Review Comment No. 1. This additional analysis has been included in the attached Appendix D and has been incorporated into the Final Record Copy of the EIE, which is included in the attached Appendix E.

Review Comment No. 4:

The Council also notes that several maps within the EIE fail to depict the location of the proposed facility including, but not limited to, the Zoning Map, the Land Use Map, the Sustainable Growth Policy Map, Cultural Resources map, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System map, the floodzone map, the NDDDB map, etc., which might make it difficult for members of the public and other individuals to independently assess that information.

Response to Review Comment No. 4:

These maps have been corrected to include the designation of the location of the site of the proposed action, and are included in the attached Appendix D. The maps also have been incorporated into the Final Record Copy of the EIE, which is included in the attached Appendix E.

Errata

In addition to changes made to the EIE to include text responsive to the public comments received, the final record copy of the EIE attached hereto was edited to correct specific scrivener’s errors in sections 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 4.0, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.11, 4.12, and 4.14.

Additional Analysis Regarding Section 4.8 – Biological Resources – Wildlife/Fauna

In addition to the errata above, an additional review of the Wildlife/Fauna subsection under **Section 4.8 – Biological Resources**, specifically the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website and mapping tool report, determined that there were not “no migratory birds with potential to occur within the area of the proposed action” but rather 16 species. However, since the project site is relatively small and has been disturbed previously, and no tree removal is expected to occur as part of the implementation of the proposed action, no impacts to migratory birds or their nesting sites are anticipated.

3.0 SPONSORING AGENCY DECISION

Based on the analysis undertaken in the preparation of the EIE as well as consideration of all comments received, DEEP concludes that the proposed action will have no significant impact on the environment. Additionally, all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm will be implemented.

APPENDIX A

Publications in the Environmental Monitor

Notice of Scoping for Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure

Addresses of possible locations: 38 Maple Street, Kent, CT 06757; 55 South Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Municipalities where proposed actions might be located: Town of Kent and Town of Ridgefield

Project Description: Utilizing a grant award from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) through its MMI Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. The in-vessel unit will be solar powered. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state. On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region and beyond. In addition, this will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection and reduce the operating cost to the Town.

HRRRA also proposes site upgrades at the Ridgefield HRRRA Regional Transfer Station that will enable the facility to significantly increase waste collection capacity by expanding the volume and types of waste diverted from the MSW waste stream. These upgrades will make possible designated collection areas for construction and demolition and MSW bulky waste materials, establishing a new regional Reuse Exchange Shop for reusable bulky waste and C&D, expansion of programs for food scraps, cooking oil, plastic film, existing EPR programs for e-waste, mattresses and paint, planned EPR programs for cylinders and tires, and housing a plastic film baler and bales which will support new regional plastic film collection points within the HRRRA region.

Project Maps: Click [here](#) and [here](#) to view the maps of the project locations.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday, June 28, 2025.**

Additional information about the project can be viewed in person at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT **and online at:** [MMI Grant Program Page](#)

Written comments and/or requests for a public scoping meeting should be sent to

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

If you have questions about the scoping for this project, contact:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What Happens Next: The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will make a determination whether to proceed with preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) or that the project does not require the preparation of an EIE under the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). A Post-Scoping Notice of its decision will appear in a future edition of the *Environmental Monitor*.

Post-Scoping Notice for Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure

Address of Possible Project Location: 38 Maple Street, Kent, CT 06757

Municipalities where proposed actions might be located: Town of Kent

Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) Determination: On May 20, 2025, the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) published a [Notice of Scoping](https://portal.ct.gov/ceq/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor---current-issue#scoping) (<https://portal.ct.gov/ceq/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor---current-issue#scoping>) to solicit public comments for this proposed Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure in the *Environmental Monitor*.

No comments were received during the public comment period.

The State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has determined:

To proceed with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) proposal to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected, under DEEP's Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant Program.

Agency contact:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state Agency.

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What Happens Next:

For the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority's (HRRA) proposal to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected, under DEEP's Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant Program, **the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will proceed with the preparation of an EIE.** When an EIE is completed, a notice of the availability of the EIE will be published in a future edition of the *Environmental Monitor*.



MEMORANDUM OF FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION

To: Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality

From: Michael T. Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner
Environmental Quality Branch, MMCA Bureau

Date: July 18, 2025

Subject: CEPA Findings – Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure -
Proposed site upgrades at the Ridgefield HRRR Regional Transfer Station – Kent, CT

On May 20, 2025 the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) published a Notice of Scoping in the *Environmental Monitor* to solicit comments for proposed site upgrades at the Ridgefield HRRR Regional Transfer Station in Kent, CT. No public comments were submitted during the scoping period.

Based upon our review of the project scope, DEEP has concluded that the project requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation under CEPA. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at michael.looney@ct.gov or 860-424-3530.

Notice of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for Building a Regional Composting Facility for Southeastern Connecticut in Preston

Address of Possible Project Location: 132 Military Highway (Route 12) Preston

Municipality where proposed action is to be located: Preston

Project Description: Utilizing a grant award from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) through its Materials Management and Infrastructure Grant Program, the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA) proposes to construct and operate the first large-scale aerobic food waste composting facility in southeastern Connecticut, fulfilling an infrastructure need in an historically underserved region. The facility will utilize an innovative hybrid compost system, combining aerated static pile processing with open windrows for curing, resulting in quicker composting times and reduced operational costs. The facility will be situated on approximately six acres of land owned by the Authority at 132 Military Highway (Route 12) in the town of Preston. It is anticipated that the volume of source-separated organics diverted will be approximately 5,500 tons per year, and the anticipated volume of wood waste diverted will be approximately 8,500 tons per year. Local zoning approval for the facility has been acquired, and the required state-level solid waste permit application is currently under review by DEEP. A robust environmental justice public participation plan has also been developed and approved by DEEP, in consideration of Preston's status as a distressed municipality.

Project Map: [Click here](#) to view a map of the project location.

Scoping Notice and Post Scoping Notice: The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection published a Scoping Notice on [May 20, 2025](#), and a Post-Scoping Notice on [July 22, 2025](#), for the proposed project in the Environmental Monitor.

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: **October 31, 2025**.

The public can view a copy of the EIE [here](#) or at the following locations:

Preston Town Clerk's Office
389 Route 2 – Town Hall
Preston, CT 06365

Preston Public Library
389 Route 2
Preston, CT 06365

CT DEEP Headquarters
By appointment only
Contact: Michael.Looney@ct.gov
79 Elm Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, the sponsoring agency will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting DEEP identified below by **September 26, 2025**.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or to request a public hearing, please contact:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Michael T. Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What happens next: DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments shall be made available in a "Record of Decision", which will appear in the *Environmental Monitor* for public inspection.

Revised Notice of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for a Regional Composting Facility in Kent, CT

Revised: DEEP has extended the dates for public comments. Requests for a public hearing will be accepted until **November 28, 2025**. Public comments will be accepted until **January 2, 2026**. The previously released EIE erroneously omitted an environmental justice community. This EIE document includes updated evaluation and analysis of potential impacts to that community and concludes that there is no potential impact.

Address of Possible Project Location: 38 and 44 Maple Street, Kent Ct 06757

Municipality where proposed action is to be located: Kent

Project Description: Utilizing a grant award from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) through its Materials Management and Infrastructure Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. The in-vessel unit will be solar powered. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state. On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region and beyond. In addition, this will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection and reduce the operating cost to the Town.

Project Map: [Click here \(https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/cepa-2025/kent-and-ridgefield-may-2025-mmi/pal_kent_20240425.jpg?rev=de567ba2065a4551b17b8b8dee0ebedf&sc_lang=en&hash=68C69EE2463A9A3BDE1B76B7511D89AE\)](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/cepa-2025/kent-and-ridgefield-may-2025-mmi/pal_kent_20240425.jpg?rev=de567ba2065a4551b17b8b8dee0ebedf&sc_lang=en&hash=68C69EE2463A9A3BDE1B76B7511D89AE) to view a map of the project area.

Scoping Notice and Post Scoping Notice: DEEP published a Scoping Notice on **May 20, 2025** (<https://portal.ct.gov/ceq/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor-archives/2025/may-20-2025>), and a Post-Scoping Notice on **July 22, 2025** (<https://portal.ct.gov/ceq/environmental-monitor/environmental-monitor-archives/2025/july-22-2025>), for the proposed project in the Environmental Monitor.

Comments on this EIE are being extended and will be accepted until the close of business on: **January 2, 2026**.

The public can view a copy of the EIE [here](#) or at the following locations:

Kent Town Clerk's Office
41 Kent Green Boulevard (Town Hall)
Kent, CT 06757

Kent Memorial Library
32 North Main Street
Kent, CT 06757

CT DEEP Headquarters, by appointment only
Contact: Michael.Looney@ct.gov (<mailto:Michael.Looney@ct.gov>)
79 Elm Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, the sponsoring agency will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting the DEEP staff identified below by **November 28, 2025**.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or a request for a public hearing should be sent to:

Name: Michael Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT 06106

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov (<mailto:Michael.Looney@ct.gov>)

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring agency:

Name: Michael Looney

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT 06106

Phone: 860-424-3530

E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov (<mailto:Michael.Looney@ct.gov>)

What happens next: DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments shall be made available in a "Record of Decision", which will appear in the *Environmental Monitor* for public inspection.

Revised Notice of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for a Regional Composting Facility in Kent CT

Revised: DEEP has extended the dates for public comments. Requests for a public hearing will be accepted until **January 30, 2026**. Public comments will be accepted until **March 6, 2026**.

Addresses of Possible Project Location: 38 and 44 Maple Street, Kent CT 06757

Municipality where proposed action is to be located: Kent

Project Description: Utilizing a grant award from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) through its Materials Management and Infrastructure Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) proposes to site an in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. The in-vessel unit will be solar powered. HRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state. On behalf of Kent, the HRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region and beyond. In addition, this will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection and reduce the operating cost to the Town.

Project Map: Click here to view a map of the project area.

Scoping Notice and Post Scoping Notice: DEEP published a Scoping Notice on May 20, 2025, and a Post-Scoping Notice on July 22, 2025, for the proposed project in the Environmental Monitor.

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: **March 6, 2026**.

The public can view a copy of the EIE here or at the following locations:

Kent Town Clerk's Office, 41 Kent Green Boulevard (Town Hall), Kent CT

Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent CT

CT DEEP Headquarters, 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT (by appointment only). Contact Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov

If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, the sponsoring agency will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting DEEP identified below by **January 30, 2026**.

Written comments or questions about the EIE, or to request a public hearing, please contact:

Name: Elizabeth Moore

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT 06010

E-Mail: Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the following contact:

Name: Elizabeth Moore

Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860-424-3467

E-Mail: Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov

What Happens Next:

DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments shall be made available in a "Record of Decision", which will appear in the *Environmental Monitor* for public inspection.

APPENDIX B

Publications in the Newspaper



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Revised Public Notice of Availability of

Environmental Impact Evaluation

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) has been prepared pursuant to Section 22a-1d of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 22a-1a-8 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for the Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure Project in Kent, CT. Utilizing a grant award from DEEP through its MMI Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site a solar powered in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state.

On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region, significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection, and reduce the Town's operating costs. A previously released version of this EIE erroneously omitted an environmental justice community. This EIE document includes updated evaluation and analysis of potential impacts to that community and concludes that there is no impact.

Copies of this EIE are available by emailing Elizabeth Moore, Environmental Analyst, at elizabeth.moore@ct.gov, or at <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/business-and-financial-assistance/grants-financial-assistance/materials-management-infrastructure-grant-program>. Copies of the EIE are also available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Town Hall, Kent, CT 06757; the Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent, CT 06757; and at DEEP Headquarters, MMCA Bureau, 79 Elm Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103.

The deadline for submission of comments is **March 6, 2026**. If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, DEEP will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting the DEEP staff member identified below by **January 30, 2026**.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or a request for a public hearing should be sent to:

Name: Elizabeth Moore
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3567
E-Mail: Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Elizabeth Moore
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3567
E-Mail: Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov

What happens next: DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments shall be made available in a "Record of Decision", which will appear in the Environmental Monitor for public inspection.

Jennifer L. Perry, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance (MMCA)

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact us at (860) 418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov if you: have a disability and need a communication aid or service; have limited proficiency in English and may need information in another language; or if you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint.

El Departamento de Energía y Protección Ambiental de Connecticut es un Empleador de Acción Afirmativa/Igualdad de Oportunidades comprometido a cumplir con los requisitos de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Por favor, contáctenos al (860) 418-5910 o deep.accommodations@ct.gov si: tiene una discapacidad y necesita una ayuda o servicio de comunicación; tiene un dominio limitado del inglés y puede necesitar información en otro idioma; o si desea presentar una queja por discriminación ADA o Título VI. Cualquier persona que necesite una adaptación auditiva puede llamar al número de relé del Estado de Connecticut: 711. Las

solicitudes de adaptaciones deben hacerse al menos dos semanas antes de cualquier audiencia, programa o evento de la agencia.



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 web: www.hellovanguard.com

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 Attn: Accounts Payable
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CT-ENVIRONMENT PROTECT, DEPT OF
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 HARTFORD, CT 06106

OUR ORD. NO	DATE SHIPPED	CONTRACT NUMBER	SALESPERSON	TERMS
01-741736	02/06/2026	24PSSX0020AZ	Conn House	Net 45 Days

QTY ORD	QTY SHIPPED	DESCRIPTION / FORM NUMBER	UNIT PRICE	UNIT	AMOUNT
1	1	WATERBURY REP AMER 1/23, 1/30, 2/6 ADPLACEMNT	1731.85	EACH	1,731.85
.20	.20	AFFIDAVIT FEE	125.00	HOUR	25.00
3.48	3.48	ADMIN FEE	125.00	HOUR	435.00

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 EMail:ar@vanguarddirect.com

Net Sale:	Sales Tax:	Freight:	Total:
2,191.85	.00	.00	2,191.85

Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut
County of Hartford

I, Melanie Meile, Senior Account Representative of Vanguard Direct, 716 Brook Street, Ste 124, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 do solemnly swear on:

Notary Date:	January 23, 2026
Ad Title:	CT DEEP – Revised Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation
Application #	HRRA-KENT (Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority)
Appeared in:	The Waterbury Republican-American
VG Job#:	01-741736

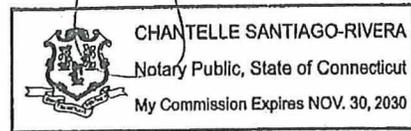
Publication and the newspaper extracts, hereto annexed were clipped from the above named issue of said newspaper.

Signature of Vanguard rep: Melanie Meile

Subscribed to and sworn to before me, this 23 day of January, 2026.

[Handwritten Signature]

Notary Public



Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut
County of Hartford

I, Melanie Meile, Senior Account Representative of Vanguard Direct, 716 Brook Street, Ste 124, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 do solemnly swear on:

Notary Date:	January 30, 2026
Ad Title:	CT DEEP – Revised Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation
Application #	HRRA-KENT (Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority)
Appeared in:	The Waterbury Republican-American
VG Job#:	01-741736

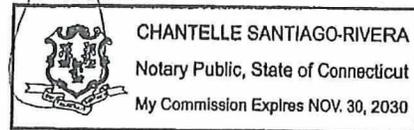
Publication and the newspaper extracts, hereto annexed were clipped from the above named issue of said newspaper.

Signature of Vanguard rep: Melanie Meile

Subscribed to and sworn to before me, this 30 day of January, 2026.

Chantelle Santiago-Rivera

Notary Public



Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut
County of Hartford

I, Melanie Meile, Senior Account Representative of Vanguard Direct, 716 Brook Street, Ste 124, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 do solemnly swear on:

Notary Date:	February 6, 2026
Ad Title:	CT DEEP – Revised Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation
Application #	HRRRA-KENT (Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority)
Appeared in:	The Waterbury Republican-American
VG Job#:	01-741736

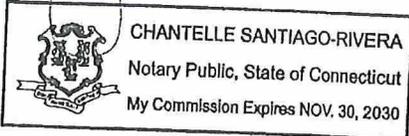
Publication and the newspaper extracts, hereto annexed were clipped from the above named issue of said newspaper.

Signature of Vanguard rep: Melanie Meile

Subscribed to and sworn to before me, this 6 day of February, 2026.

[Signature]

Notary Public



classified

ctinsider.com/Waterbury • 203-333-4151 • classifieds@hearstmediact.com • Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am - 3:30 pm

PUBLIC NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
 Revised Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) has been prepared pursuant to Section 22a-15 of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 22a-1e-3 of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies for the proposed construction, financing and financing infrastructure project in Kent, CT, utilizing a grant earned from DEEP through the Rural Energy Program to construct the Riverside Recovery Authority (RRA) proposed to site a solar powered biogas composting system. The RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste. The RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste. The RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NAUGATUCK
 INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

NOTICE OF DECISION is hereby given that the following was decided on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. 1. APPROVAL of application #W 8-25-04, for regulated activities associated with an 11-acre subdivision within the 100' riparian area, with site-specific and general conditions, located at 6 Field St. (sect 6-01-3801), Application: Christine A. Tova, Farmington. Also see map available for review at www.naugatuck-ct.gov or at the Land Use Office, by appointment, 203-720-1243, 322 Church St., 1st Fl., 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. ATTEST: Tracy DeLoraine, Chair.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PURCHASING AUTHORITY
 Town of New Milford, Connecticut
 REQUEST FOR BIDS - Bridge Rehabilitation

Sealed bids will be received via the Town's e-Procurement Portal until Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. for the Brookdale Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation, Project #2019-0028, bid. Bids will be opened in the E. Paul Harris Room by the Purchasing Authority, and read aloud at that time. Late bids will not be accepted through the portal and will be rejected.

On behalf of Kent, the RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste. The RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste. The RRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-RRA member communities to meet their need for processing their organic food waste.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING is hereby given that the following was decided on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. 1. APPROVAL of application #W 8-25-04, for regulated activities associated with an 11-acre subdivision within the 100' riparian area, with site-specific and general conditions, located at 6 Field St. (sect 6-01-3801), Application: Christine A. Tova, Farmington. Also see map available for review at www.naugatuck-ct.gov or at the Land Use Office, by appointment, 203-720-1243, 322 Church St., 1st Fl., 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. ATTEST: Tracy DeLoraine, Chair.

The Town seeks a qualified construction firm for the Brookdale Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation. Specifications and bid forms must be obtained online through request for proposal using, when applicable, state bids will be considered.

LEGAL NOTICE
 TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
 NOTICE OF ACTION

The scheduled regular meeting of Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission of the 4th of February 2020 was canceled - lack of needed members present for a quorum.

PUBLIC NOTICE - TOWN OF WARREN

Electors and eligible taxpayers of the Town of Warren are advised of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at the Warren Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. on a proposed land swap on Luanan Mountain Road, an Interlocal Agreement with Goshen and Moritz on the Regional School District #9 Parishion, an ordinance as proposed by the Interlocal Agreement, new truck purchase and expansion of the Wealey Garden club.

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
 PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Plymouth Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 18, 2020, Regular Meeting, to hear the Application of Property Owner Roy Goshen for Development Envelope Approval to enable future conversion of dwellings with kitchen improvements, at 62 Ashbrook Road Assessor Lot No. 018-017-001; engineer: Robert Green Associates LLC.

LEGAL NOTICE
 TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
 NOTICE OF ACTION

The scheduled regular meeting of Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission of the 4th of February 2020 was canceled - lack of needed members present for a quorum.

PURCHASING AUTHORITY
 Town of New Milford
 Brookdale Ave. Bridge Inspection Services RFP

The Town of New Milford is requesting proposals from qualified professional firms, located in the State of Connecticut, to provide Bridge Inspection Services for the Town. The proposal package must be obtained online through the Town's e-Procurement Portal - OpenGov Procurement, found at www.newmilford.org/procuring.

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LEGAL NOTICE
 TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
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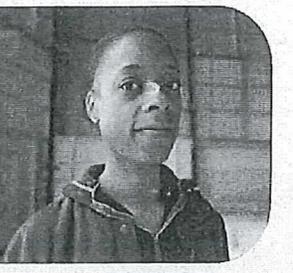
PURCHASING AUTHORITY
 Town of New Milford
 Brookdale Ave. Bridge Inspection Services RFP

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TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
 PUBLIC NOTICE

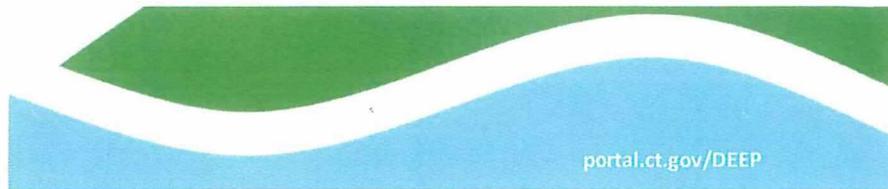
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It's always been easier for me to help others than to help myself



As a Veteran, when someone raises their hand for help, you're often one of the first ones to respond. But it's also okay to get help for yourself. Maybe you want or need assistance with employment, stress, finances, mental health or finding the right resources. No matter what it is, you earned it. And there's no better time than right now to ask for it. Don't wait. Reach out.

Find resources at VA.GOV/REACH



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Public Notice of Availability of

Environmental Impact Evaluation

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) has been prepared pursuant to Section 22a-1d of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 22a-1a-8 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for the Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure Project in Kent, CT. Utilizing a grant award from DEEP through its MMI Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site a solar powered in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state.

On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region, significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection, and reduce the Town's operating costs. A previously released version of this EIE erroneously omitted an environmental justice community. This EIE document includes updated evaluation and analysis of potential impacts to that community and concludes that there is no impact.

Copies of this EIE are available by emailing Michael T. Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner, at michael.looney@ct.gov, or at <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/business-and-financial-assistance/grants-financial-assistance/materials-management-infrastructure-grant-program>. Copies of the EIE are also available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Town Hall, Kent, CT 06757; the Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent, CT 06757; and at DEEP Headquarters, MMCA Bureau, 79 Elm Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103.

The deadline for submission of comments is **January 2, 2026**. If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, DEEP will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting the DEEP staff member identified below by **November 28, 2025**.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or a request for a public hearing should be sent to:

Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3530
E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3530
E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What happens next: DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments shall be made available in a "Record of Decision", which will appear in the Environmental Monitor for public inspection.

Jennifer L. Perry, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance (MMCA)

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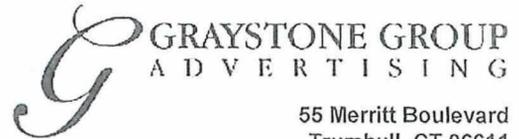
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solicitudes de adaptaciones deben hacerse al menos dos semanas antes de cualquier audiencia, programa o evento de la agencia.

Invoice

Invoice No. 233170-924762

Date: December 18, 2025



55 Merritt Boulevard

Trumbull, CT 06611

Tel: 203.549.0060

Accounting Fax: 203.502-8876

Email: AccountingDept@GraystoneAdv.com

Federal ID# 06-1422266

CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection
Attn: Taiwo Onawoga
Financial Management
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Order No: DEPM1-0000070402

Blanket Order No:

Contact: Taiwo Onawoga

Job No: 233170

Ad Title: Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation – Kent, CT

	Insert Date	Size	Description		Amount
Waterbury Republican	11/25/2025	2 x 96.3	In Column	\$	560.47
			Affidavit fee	+\$	25.00
			10.00% Admin Fee	+\$	58.55
Ad Subtotal					\$644.01

INVOICE TOTAL \$644.01

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Amount Due if paid
after due date: \$653.67

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Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut
County of Fairfield

I, Elaine Purdy, a billing representative of Graystone Group Advertising, 55 Merritt Blvd., Trumbull, CT 06611, do solemnly swear that on:

Date:	Nov. 25, 2025
Ad Title:	CT DEEP
	Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation
Appeared in:	Republican-American/ CTInsider.com (Waterbury Republican)
Job #:	233170

publication and the newspaper extracts, hereto annexed were clipped from the above named issue of said newspaper.

Signature of Billing Representative Elaine Purdy

Subscribed to and sworn to before me, this 17 day of December, 2025.

Dorothy Schreiner
Notary Public



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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Environmental Impact Evaluation

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Copies of this EIE are available by emailing Michael T. Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner, at michael.looney@ct.gov, or at <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/business-and-financial-assistance/grants-financial-assistance/materials-management-infrastructure-grant-program>. Copies of the EIE are also available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Town Hall, Kent, CT 06757; the Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent, CT 06757; and at DEEP Headquarters, MMCA Bureau, 79 Elm Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103.

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Jennifer L. Perry, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance (MMCA)

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*** INVOICE ***

519 Eighth Avenue - 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10018
(212)-736-0770 Fax: (212)-736-6828
web: www.hellovanguard.com

INVOICE NUMBER 1653389
INVOICE DATE 12/03/2025
CUSTOMER NUMBER 01-1246000
CLIENT ORDER NUMBER DEPM1-81409

SOLD TO

SHIPPED TO

CT-Environment Protect, Dept Of
Attn: Accounts Payable
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

TAIWO ONAWOGA
CT-ENVIORNMENT PROTECT, DEPT OF
79 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106

OUR ORD. NO	DATE SHIPPED	CONTRACT NUMBER	SALESPERSON	TERMS
01-741650	12/03/2025	24PSX0020	Conn House	Net 45 Days

QTY ORD	QTY SHIPPED	DESCRIPTION / FORM NUMBER	UNIT PRICE	UNIT	AMOUNT
		ENVIORNMENTAL EVALUATION HRRRA-KENT			.00
1	1	WATERBURY REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN 12/2/2025	675.43	EACH	675.43
		AD PLACEMENT FOR 12/2/25 RUN DATE			
		ADPLACEMNT			
.20	.20	AFFIDATE FEE	125.00	HOUR	25.00
1.35	1.35	ADMIN FEE	125.00	HOUR	168.75

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Net Sale:	Sales Tax:	Freight:	Total:
869.18	.00	.00	869.18

Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut
County of Hartford

I, Melanie Meile, Senior Account Representative of Vanguard Direct, 716 Brook Street, Ste 124, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 do solemnly swear on:

Notary Date:	December 3, 2025
Ad Title:	CT DEEP – Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact HRRRA - Kent
	Michael T. Looney 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 Application No: Section 22a-1d of the CT Statues and Section 22a-1a-8
Appeared in:	Waterbury Republican-American (12/2/25)
VG Job#:	01-741650

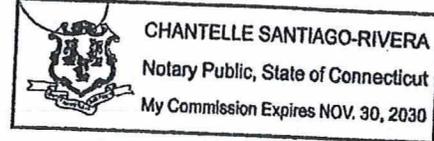
Publication and the newspaper extracts, hereto annexed were clipped from the above named issue of said newspaper.

Signature of Vanguard rep: Melanie Meile

Subscribed to and sworn to before me, this 3 day of December, 2025.

[Signature]

Notary Public



PUBLIC NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Public Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Evaluation

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) has been prepared pursuant to Section 22a-14 of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 22a-1a & of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for the Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure Project in Kent, CT. Utilizing a grant award from DEEP through its AMM Grant Program, the Hazardous Resource Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site a solar powered anaerobic composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of off-site disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state.

On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing through the Kent transfer station. The municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metropolitan containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organic management services to this part of the region, significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection, and reduce the Town's operating costs. A previously released version of this EIE erroneously omitted an environmental justice community. This EIE document includes updated evaluation and analysis of potential impacts to that community and concludes that there is no impact.

Copies of this EIE are available by emailing Michael T. Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner, at michael.looney@ct.gov, or at https://portal.ct.gov/deep/about-us/financial-assistance/materials-management-infrastructure-grant-program. Copies of the EIE are also available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Town Hall, Kent, CT 06757, the Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent, CT 06757; and at DEEP Headquarters, MMCA Bureau, 79 Elm Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103.

The deadline for submission of comments is January 8, 2025. If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, DEEP will conduct a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting the DEEP staff member identified below by November 26, 2025.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or a request for a public hearing should be sent to:
Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-2530
E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and/or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:
Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-2530
E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

What happens next: DEEP will review the comments received and may conduct further environmental study and analysis or amend the evaluation. DEEP will prepare responses to the substantive issues raised in review of and comment on the EIE and any supplemental materials or amendments. Those responses and all supplemental materials and comments will be made available as a "Record of Decision," which will appear in the Environmental Monitor for public inspection.

Jennifer L. Perry, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance (MMCA)

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact us at (860) 418-9910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov if you have a disability and need a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English and may need information in another language, or if you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint.

El Departamento de Energía y Protección Ambiental de Connecticut es un Empleador de Acción Afirmativa/Oportunidad Igual que está comprometido a cumplir con los requisitos de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Por favor, contáctenos al (860) 418-9910 o deep.accommodations@ct.gov si tiene una discapacidad y necesita una ayuda o servicio de comunicación, tiene un dominio limitado del inglés y puede necesitar información en otro idioma, o si desea presentar una queja por discriminación ADA o Título VI. Cualquier persona que necesite una adaptación auditiva puede llamar al número de teléfono del Estado de Connecticut: 711. Las solicitudes de adaptaciones deben hacerse al menos dos semanas antes de cualquier audiencia, programa o evento de la agencia.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
The vehicles listed below will be sold by public auction at George Waldman Auto Electric 32 Freight St. Waterbury, Ct. 06702 at the date and time shown below. Any and all claims must be presented before the date of sale. We reserve the right to reject any/all bids.
Date and time: Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025 at 10 AM
Vint 1N4AL2AP3GN547926 ... (FN#R-338278074767 ...
1CS8RFF5MNS34236

Request for Proposal
RM Bradley, on behalf of the State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch, is requesting proposals for Paper Supplies and Liners.
Litchfield Superior Courthouse 56 Field Street, Torrington, CT

A mandatory bidder's meeting will be held on Monday December 8 at 2 pm in the main lobby of 56 Field Street. Bids are due on Monday December 15, by 2pm. Further details are available in the bid documents. Bid packages may be obtained by contacting RM Bradley/Dave Valentine at dvalentine@rmbradley.com or call 860-335-1241.

Request for Proposal
RM Bradley, on behalf of the State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch, is requesting proposals for Paper Supplies and Liners.
Danbury Superior Courthouse 146 White Street Danbury, CT.

A mandatory bidder's meeting will be held on Tuesday December 9 at 11am in the main lobby of 146 White Street Danbury CT. Bids are due on Monday December 15, by 2pm. Further details are available in the bid documents. Bid packages may be obtained by contacting RM Bradley/Dave Valentine at dvalentine@rmbradley.com or call 860-335-1241.

Did You Know?

There are two moments each year when the Sun is directly above the Equator and the Earth's axis is neither tilted toward or away from the sun, evening the hours of day and night (nearly equal in length). These days are the spring and fall equinoxes. The fall equinox occurs on September 23, 2025 at 2:07 pm and marks the official beginning of fall in the northern hemisphere. The equinox is celebrated as a daylong event, but it's really just a moment in time when the sun crosses the celestial equator. The equinox after, brings on the northern lights, which also is known as the aurora borealis. Auroras are caused by the interaction of solar winds with the Earth's magnetic field. Best viewed in the Northern Hemisphere, they're strongest and most vibrant in spring and fall. Paulsen says that only an equinox can see the full spectrum of colors. However, it's really an

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Heart Smart Basics
What to Know to Keep your Healthy

Being smart about your heart means knowing what causes heart disease and what your individual risk factors are.

Blood pressure is the force of blood pushing against the walls of your arteries in the heart pump blood. Blood pressure is measured using two numbers - diastolic and systolic. Systolic is the first number and is the pressure when blood is pumped out of the heart. Diastolic is the second number and is the pressure between heartbeats when the heart is filling with blood.

Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, develops when blood flows through your arteries at higher than normal pressures.

Healthy blood pressure is less than 120/80 mm Hg. High blood pressure occurs when blood pressure is consistently 130/80 mm Hg or higher.

Preeclampsia is a type of high blood pressure that occurs only during pregnancy. It occurs after the 20th week of pregnancy.

A blood pressure monitor has an inflatable cuff that wraps around the arm. A healthcare provider will inflate the cuff, which gently tightens on your arm. The cuff has a gauge on it that will measure your blood pressure. The gauge uses a unit of measurement called millimeters of mercury (mm Hg) to measure the pressure in your blood vessels.

Self-Monitoring Blood Pressure (SMBP) involves a patient's regular use of personal blood pressure monitors to measure their blood pressure away from a doctor's office or hospital - usually at home. These blood pressure monitors are easy and safe to use.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS ORDER OF NOTICE

NOTICE TO: Inani Onora, mother of female child born on 07/14/2018 to Anthony V.

A petition has been filed seeking Conservator of minor child of the above named or vesting of custody and care of said child of the above named in a lawful, private or public agency or a suitable and worthy person.

Hearing on an Order of Temporary custody will be heard on: 12/02/2025 at 12:00 am at 7 Kendrick Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06702

Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of this hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt in the Republican American, a newspaper having circulation in the town/city of Waterbury, CT.

Honorable Judge, Ioanroun Ewling Dupont, Clerk 1 11/28/2025

RIGHT TO COUNSEL: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will provide one for you at court expense. Any such request should be made immediately at the court office where your hearing is to be held.

LOST AND FOUND

LOCATED NEAR Suffolk St and Main St, in Waterbury. 2 cats, unaltered, brown, fawn. BioWiz, wearing flea collars. 860-451-4848

REDEEM OR ADOPT tan/whi Female Pit mix w/whi Female Husky mix 203-574-6909

SOUTHWAY ANIMAL CONTROL Male neutered great pyrenois, white band w/ dark 25 months



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Public Notice of Availability of
Environmental Impact Evaluation

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) has been prepared pursuant to Section 22a-1d of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 22a-1a-8 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for the Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure Project in Kent, CT. Utilizing a grant award from DEEP through its MIMI Grant Program, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) proposes to site a solar powered in-vessel composting unit at the Kent transfer station where food scraps are collected. HRRRA believes that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state.

On behalf of Kent, the HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than trucking to more distant processing facilities. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region, significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection, and reduce the Town's operating costs. A previously released version of this EIE erroneously omitted an environmental justice community. This EIE document includes updated evaluation and analysis of potential impacts to that community and concludes that there is no impact.

Copies of this EIE are available by emailing Michael T. Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner, at michael.looney@ct.gov, or at <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/business-and-financial-assistance/grants-financial-assistance/materials-management/infrastructure-grant-program>. Copies of the EIE are also available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Town Hall, Kent, CT 06757; the Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main Street, Kent, CT 06757; and at DEEP Headquarters, MIMCA Bureau, 79 Elm Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103.

The deadline for submission of comments is **January 2, 2026**. If a public hearing is requested by twenty-five or more persons, or by an association having not less than twenty-five persons, DEEP will schedule a public hearing on the EIE. Such requests for a public hearing must be made by contacting the DEEP staff member identified below by **November 28, 2025**.

Written comments about this EIE, questions about this EIE, or a request for a public hearing should be sent to:

Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3530
E-Mail: Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Inquiries and requests to view and or copy documents, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, must be submitted to the sponsoring state agency:

Name: Michael T. Looney
Agency: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Address: 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3530
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Jennifer L. Perry, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance (MIMCA)

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APPENDIX C

Public Comments on the EIE



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chair

September 24, 2025

Timothy J. Bishop

Michael T. Looney
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Michael.Looney@ct.gov

Linda Bowers

Christopher Donnelly

Re: Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for a Regional Composting Facility in Kent

David Kalafa

Dear Michael Looney,

Cinzia Lettieri

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) provides the following comments regarding the EIE for a Regional Composting Facility in Kent.

Aimee Petras

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) proposes to provide funds to the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority (HRRA) to construct a solar-powered regional in-vessel composting facility near the Kent Transfer Station to process approximately 182 tons of food scraps annually.

Denise Rodosevich

William Warzecha

Noise

The EIE states that “during operation of the in-vessel composter, there will be noise from the composting equipment itself, as well as from support equipment and vehicles such as front-end loaders” and “from an industrial grinder.” While the EIE states that “operational noise is not expected to disturb residents and other sensitive noise receptors above current levels,” it is unclear if a noise analysis was completed for the proposed equipment that could confirm compliance with applicable noise regulations at the adjacent noise zones. It is also unclear where the residents and other sensitive noise receptors are located in relation to the proposed facility. It would be helpful to include information regarding the calculated noise level for all equipment likely to be operated, and the distance from the proposed equipment to the “residents and other sensitive noise receptors” at the adjacent noise zones. The EIE also states that “with the implementation of proper mitigation measures, the potential operational noise impacts will be less than significant”; however, it is unknown what the operational mitigation measures would be since they are not described or listed in section 4.14.

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

The EIE states that “the site of the proposed action is located within a Natural Diversity Area that is closely associated with the nearby Housatonic River” and “it is not clear what species and how many species, if any, are associated with the proposed site.” Further, the EIE states that “three (3) species of note are indicated as intersecting with the site of the proposed action, although the species themselves are not identified by name.” Consultation with the NDDB should be a first step in complying with the requirement of the RCSA Section 22a-1a-3(b)(5) to consider the “effect on natural communities and upon critical plant and animal species and their habitat; interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species;” when performing a review in accord with the regulations that apply to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA).

The Council notes that the EIE includes several references to a qualitative assessment that certain potential impacts to environmental and community resources would be “less than significant”. The provision of quantitative data could assist the public and other individuals to assess the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to environmental and community resources listed in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) Section 22a-1a-3(b). The Council also notes that several maps within the EIE fail to depict the location of the proposed facility including, but not limited to, the Zoning Map, the Land Use Map, the Sustainable Growth Policy Map, Cultural Resources map, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System map, the floodzone map, the NDDDB map, etc., which might make it difficult for members of the public and other individuals to independently assess that information.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Aresta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

APPENDIX D

Supporting Documentation for Responses to Public Comments on the EIE

Noise Analysis – Kent EIE

Construction activities for the proposed in-vessel composting facility will create low to moderate levels of noise; however, these noise levels would return to baseline conditions upon completion of project construction. The temporary impacts would be the result of heavy equipment operation. The construction activities would occur during daytime hours and on weekdays when noise levels of a low to moderate range would be more frequently expected and better tolerated.

In an effort to minimize any potential annoyances caused by a temporary increase in noise levels, construction activities should be limited to between 7:00am and 10:00pm. This mitigation measure would further ensure no significant impacts as a result of a short-term increase in noise. Given the site of the proposed action being approximately 340 feet distant from the nearest residential properties, construction noise is not expected to disturb residents and other sensitive noise receptors above current levels. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) data indicates that typical construction equipment and vehicles such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, bulldozers, and excavators have a maximum noise level generally between 80 decibels and 85 decibels at a distance of 50 feet. To calculate noise at a given distance (340 feet from residential properties) based upon this information, the following equation is used:

$$dB_1 = dB_0 + 20\log(d_0/d_1), \text{ where:}$$

dB_1 = the new sound level

dB_0 = the original sound level

d_0 = is the original distance from the source

d_1 = is the new distance from the source

Utilizing this equation results in the following:

$$dB_1 = 85 + 20\log(50/340)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 + 20\log(0.147059)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 + (-16.6502)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 - 16.6502$$

$$dB_1 = \mathbf{68.3 \text{ dBA}}$$

However, noise attenuating features are already present in and around the site of the proposed action. Between the site of the proposed action and the nearest residential properties lies an approximately 150-foot wide area of trees and heavy vegetation. According to the U.S. Forest Service, a 100-foot wide planted buffer will reduce noise by 5 to 8 decibels. Thus, at a width of 150 feet, it is expected that the buffer area would reduce noise levels by between 7.5 and 12 decibels. In addition, a landform/earthen berm lies along the southwestern perimeter of the site of the proposed action, in the

direction of the nearest residential properties. A variety of sources indicate that such a feature can reduce noise levels by an additional 5 to 10 decibels.

Applying the noise attenuating effects of the tree and vegetation buffer and the landform/earthen berm reduces the construction period noise level as follows:

$$dB_1 = 68.3 - (7.5 \text{ to } 12.0) - (5.0 \text{ to } 10.0)$$

$$dB_1 \text{ min} = 46.3$$

$$dB_1 \text{ max} = 55.8$$

During the operational phase of the proposed in-vessel composting facility, there will be noise from basic equipment, such as from an industrial grinder, a trommel, and front-end loaders. In addition, the proposed in-vessel composter will utilize a biofilter fan, which has a typical noise level of 84 decibels at a distance of 50 feet. In addition, vibrating screens or trommels can reach 90 dBA at 50 feet, and front-end loaders have a maximum noise level generally between 80 decibels and 85 decibels.

Taking a worst-case assumption of 90 dBA generated by the facility at a distance of 50 feet results in the following noise level calculation:

$$dB_1 = dB_0 + 20\log(d_0/d_1)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + 20\log(50/340)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + 20\log(0.147059)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + (-16.6502)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 - 16.6502$$

$$dB_1 = 73.3 \text{ dBA}$$

Applying the noise attenuating effects of the tree and vegetation buffer and the landform/earthen berm reduces the noise level as follows:

$$dB_1 = 73.3 - (7.5 \text{ to } 12.0) - (5.0 \text{ to } 10.0)$$

$$dB_1 \text{ min} = 51.3$$

$$dB_1 \text{ max} = 60.8$$

The Town of Kent does not have a municipal noise ordinance. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends general daytime noise levels of less than 55 dBA to prevent significant community annoyance. More specifically for Connecticut, Section 22a-69-3.5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) provides specific "noise zone standards" for different classes of land uses, cross-referenced by noise emitters versus noise receptors. The proposed action constitutes a "Class C" noise emitter, while the nearest residential property constitutes a "Class A" noise receptor. Under RCSA Section 22a-69-3.5, a Class C emitter has a noise level threshold at a

Class A receptor of 61 dBA during the day and 51 dBA at night. Above these thresholds, noise levels are considered to be “excessive noise.”

Based upon the analysis above, construction period noise levels are expected to range from 46.3 to 55.8 decibels. Therefore, the noise impacts are expected to be less than significant, especially with the implementation of the BMP limiting hours of construction to 7:00am to 10:00pm. For the operational period, noise levels are expected to range from 51.3 to 60.8 decibels. Given that the maximum expected noise levels based upon this analysis are below the state regulations’ threshold, the noise impacts of the proposed action during the operational period are expected to be less than significant. To mitigate any potential night impacts, the operation should be required to only operate during the times of 7:00am to 10:00pm daily, in compliance with the definition of “nighttime” under RCSA Section 22a-69-1.1.

Vehicular traffic noise associated with the operation and maintenance of the facility will be incidental when considered in combination with the existing traffic use of surrounding roadways (see Section 4.10 for traffic data) and the existing truck traffic into and out of the adjacent landfill operation.

With the implementation of proper mitigation measures discussed above, the potential construction and operational noise impacts will be less than significant.



Generated by eNDDDB on:
9/29/2025

Michael Looney
Looney
79 Elm St
Hartford, CT 06106
michael.looney@ct.gov

Subject: HRRR Regional Composting Facility
Filing # 133542
NDDDB – New Determination Number: 202507195
44 Maple Street
Kent

Expiration Date: 9/29/2027

Current data maintained by the Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) and housed in the DEEP ezFile portal indicates that populations of the following State Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern species (RCA Sec. 26-306) have been documented within the project area or in close proximity to the proposed Building and Infrastructure Development (including stormwater discharge associate with construction)/New Commercial, Industrial, Governmental, HRRR Regional Composting Facility.

- Purple martin (*Progne subis*)
- Silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*)
- Red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*)
- Wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)

In accordance with the project information provided in your request submittal, implementation of the following Best Management Practices will avoid negative impacts to listed species:

Common Name	Purple martin
Scientific Name	<i>Progne subis</i>
Taxa	bird
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Purple martins return to Connecticut to select breeding sites in April. Purple Martins consume primarily dragonflies and other aerial invertebrates including moths, butterflies, flies, beetles, and wasps. Purple martins rely heavily on people to provide nesting opportunities in "martin" bird condos or "gourd" colonies. These nesting colonies are most successful if placed in open areas near a large body of water (lake or wetland), and at least 40 feet from any trees. To benefit this species, protect wetlands including a 300ft buffer around wetlands; protect food sources for this bird through protecting native plants in early successional habitats and avoiding use of chemicals that will target their prey; provide more nesting opportunities and monitor and manage the nesting colonies to exclude predators and competitors. Consult with

	the Purple Martin Conservation Association (www.purplemartin.org) for more information.
Best Management Practice	<p>To reduce the potential for collision, towers and antennas should meet USFWS guidelines with regard to height, guy wires, lighting, and maintenance:</p> <p>https://www.fvws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-</p> <p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>

Common Name	Silver-haired bat
Scientific Name	<i>Lasiorycteris noctivagans</i>
Taxa	mammal
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Silver-haired bats are primarily associated with "Old Growth" forest because of their roosting requirements. They may be limited by tree cavities and small hollows. Maternity colonies have been observed to move during the breeding season, and solitary bats will move frequently through the summer season. It is estimated that these bats require snag densities of 21 per hectare to meet their needs for roosting, preferably on South and West facing slopes. Roost trees are typically larger than average in diameter, and taller than surrounding trees. Areas around roost trees should be open and uncluttered. This bat migrates south in the winter and return to Connecticut in spring to breed. During migration bats may utilize a variety of tree species and manmade structures in natural and developed areas. This species may be risk from wind development. Silver-haired, hoary, and red bats account for the majority of bat fatalities from wind turbines.

Best Management Practice	<p>The following activities will benefit bats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve natural roosting resources (safety permitting) including snags, trees with cavities, cracks or crevices, trees with exfoliating bark (e.g. shagbark hickory), coniferous trees (e.g. tamarack, hemlock, white pine) as well as preserving talus slopes • Identify and protect summer roosts in man-made structures, such as barns • Provide artificial roost structures (i.e., bat houses) and promote their use in the surrounding community • Minimize erosion and maintaining clean and open water resources free of siltation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect native vegetation which promotes insect availability and diversity • Avoid the use of pesticides that will affect their invertebrate food source • Preserve open, edge of forest habitat corridors to allow bats to freely move among roosting, watering and foraging areas
---------------------------------	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not remove trees between May 1- July 31 to avoid disturbing breeding bats. <p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>
Common Name	Red bat
Scientific Name	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>
Taxa	mammal
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	<p>Red bats are a migratory "tree bat" species that is found throughout Connecticut between April- October in a variety of forested habitats. They roost out in the foliage of deciduous and coniferous trees, camouflaged as dead leaves or cones. Red bats are primarily solitary roosters. They can be found roosting and feeding around forest edges and clearings. Typically, larger diameter trees (12-inch DBH and larger) are more valuable to these bats. Additionally, trees with loose, rough bark such as maples, hickories, and oaks are more desirable than other tree species due to the increased cover that the loose bark provides. Large trees with cavities are also utilized by this species. Forested areas of Connecticut's coastal towns may also serve as important migratory habitat for red bats. Numbers of bats utilizing these areas can increase dramatically as bats from other northeast locations pass through Connecticut during spring and autumn migration. This species may be at risk from wind development. Silver-haired, hoary, and red bats account for the majority of bat fatalities from wind turbines.</p>
Best Management Practice	<p style="text-align: center;">The following activities will benefit bats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve natural roosting resources (safety permitting) including snags, trees with cavities, cracks or crevices, trees with exfoliating bark (e.g. shagbark hickory), coniferous trees (e.g. tamarack, hemlock, white pine) as well as preserving talus slopes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and protect summer roosts in man-made structures, such as barns • Provide artificial roost structures (i.e., bat houses) and promote their use in the surrounding community • Minimize erosion and maintaining clean and open water resources free of siltation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect native vegetation which promotes insect availability and diversity • Avoid the use of pesticides that will affect their invertebrate food source • Preserve open, edge of forest habitat corridors to allow bats to freely move among roosting, watering and foraging areas • Do not remove trees between May 1- July 31 to avoid disturbing breeding bats.

	<p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>
Common Name	Wood turtle
Scientific Name	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>
Taxa	reptile
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	<p>Individuals of this species are riverine and riparian obligates, overwintering and mating in clear, cold, primarily sand-gravel and rock bottomed streams and foraging in riparian zones, fields and upland forests during the late spring and summer. They hibernate in the banks of the river in submerged tree roots between November 1 and March 31. Their summer habitat focuses within 90m (300ft of rivers) and they regularly travel 300m (0.2 mile) from rivers during this time. During summer they seek out early successional habitat: pastures, old fields, woodlands, powerline cuts and railroad beds bordering or adjacent to streams and rivers. Their habitat in Connecticut is already severely threatened by fragmentation of riverine, instream, riparian, and upland habitats, but is exacerbated by heavy adult mortality from machinery, cars, and collection. This is compounded by the species late maturity, low reproductive potential, and high nest and hatchling depredation rates.</p>
Best Management Practice	<p>Female turtles looking for nesting habitat are frequently killed by vehicles when crossing roads. These turtles of reproductive age are the most valuable individuals in the population to maintain population persistence. Highways with high traffic are impenetrable barriers that isolate populations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culverts/Crossings: Should be avoided. When necessary it is critical that the culvert or bridge allow turtles to pass underneath (i.e. it is not perched) and the road surface and side slope will not mimic sandy nesting areas for females. • High traffic road surfaces and high traffic facilities (>100 vehicle/lane/day, 5-10 cars per hour) should use curbs and fencing to deflect animals off into wildlife underpasses or around high traffic areas. • Low traffic road surfaces should (rate) should use Cape Cod-style curbing or no curb alternatives to allow animals to cross road unimpeded. • Cluster development to reduce the amount of roadway needed and place housing as far from high use areas as possible. • Do not use road surfaces and side slopes that will mimic sandy nesting areas for females. <p>Work with biologists to plan your development to protect (buffer) and connect critical habitat. Presence of bird seed, pet food, and garbage in and around residential areas can increase the threat of predators. Predation activity from species like raccoons and skunks can destroy the majority of this species reproductive output each year.</p>

Recreational activities may increase incidental collection and impact nesting behavior, which both contribute to local turtle population decline. Most often turtles collected are adult females traveling to and from nesting. These turtles of reproductive age are the most valuable individuals in the population to maintain population persistence. Due to slow maturity and low reproductive success, even infrequent collection poses a long-term conservation problem.

- To avoid collection by the public, do not post signs alerting the public to the presence of this species.
- Litter from recreation can pose a choking hazard. Ensure there is a plan for how garbage will be managed.
- Work with biologists to plan your recreational area so that it minimizes the effect on this species.

This species hibernates in the banks of streams and some nests are vulnerable to flooding.

- Do not dewater streams during dormant period (November 1- April 1).
- Do not alter stream volume, depth or water flow rates (i.e. there should be no sudden large water released into local streams as a temporary or permanent result of your project)
- Do not alter water quality conditions of sandy streams including turbidity, temperature, and substrate.

Any fragmentation of habitat within 300m (0.2mile) of occupied streams has been demonstrated to reduce wood turtle survival through crushing of turtles under cars or mowers, collection of turtles by public, introduced predators (raccoons, skunks, chipmunks etc) that increase with housing development. New development, increased traffic, new agricultural practice that will use motorized vehicles, new or enhance recreational trails, or other removal or fragmentation of habitat within 90m buffer of occupied streams will cause increased adult mortality.

- Where possible do not increase recreational traffic through important stream and 90m buffer habitat.

Land disturbance activities need to consider local habitat features and apply fencing and/or time of year restrictions as appropriate. We recommend you consult with a herpetologist familiar with preferred habitats to assist you with proper techniques to ensure the best protection strategies are employed for your site and the scope of your project.

- Land disturbance and excavation confined to the upland can be done without risk for impact to wood turtle if work is restricted to the dormant season (November 1- March 31).

If land disturbance activity will include significant areas within and around rivers and streams, you will need to take precautions to avoid impacting hibernating adults. Consult with a qualified herpetologist to assess your work impact zone for the potential to impact overwintering wood turtle.

- Do not begin instream activity and bank disturbance in suitable overwintering habitat within a river or stream during the turtle's dormant period (November 1- March 31).

To prevent turtle access and entry into your upland work zone between April 1- October 31:

- Exclusionary practices will be required to prevent any turtle access into construction areas. These measures will need to be installed at the limits of

	<p style="text-align: center;">disturbance as shown on the plans, or be specifically designated by a qualified herpetologist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusionary fencing be at least 20 inches tall and must be secured to and remain in contact with the ground and be regularly maintained (at least bi-weekly and after major weather events) to secure any gaps or openings at ground level that may let animal pass through. • Prior to construction, all turtles occurring within fencing work area will be relocated to suitable habitat outside disturbance area. This should be performed by a qualified professional familiar with habitat requirements and behavior of the species. • The Contractor must search the work area each morning prior to any work being done. • All construction personnel working within the turtle habitat must be apprised of the species description and the possible presence of a listed species. • Any turtles encountered within the immediate work area shall be carefully moved to an adjacent area outside of the excluded area and fencing should be inspected to identify and remove access point. These animals are protected by law and no turtles should be relocated from the site. • In areas where silt fence is used for exclusion, it shall be removed as soon as the area is stable to allow for reptile and amphibian passage to resume. • Special precautions must be taken to avoid degradation of wetland habitats including any wet meadows and seasonal pools. <p>If land disturbance will occur in potential nesting areas designated by a qualified herpetologist, you will need to take precautions to prevent female turtles from entering work area and setting up nests. This fencing would need to be in place before May 15. Potential nesting areas may include open fields, early successional habitat, sandy open patches nearby wetland features, and sandy roads and roadsides.</p>
--	--

¹E = State Endangered, T = State Threatened, SC = State Special Concern, FE = Federally Endangered, FT = Federally Threatened, NA = Not applicable.

Your submission information indicates that your project requires a state permit, license, registration, or authorization, or utilizes state funding or involves state agency action. This NDDB – New determination may be utilized to fulfill the Endangered and Threatened Species requirements for state-issued permit applications, licenses, registration submissions, and authorizations.

Please be aware of the following limitations and conditions:

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding listed species available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, land owners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Database and accessed through the ezFile portal as it becomes available. New information may result in additional review, and new or modified restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

- During your work listed species may be encountered on site. A report must be submitted by the observer to the Natural Diversity Database promptly and additional review and restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. Please fill out the [appropriate survey form](#) and follow the instructions for submittal.
- Your project involves the state permit application process or other state involvement, including state funding or state agency actions; please note that consultations with your permit analyst or the agency may result in modifications or additional requirements. In this situation, additional evaluation of the proposal by the DEEP Wildlife Division may be necessary and additional information, including but not limited to species-specific site surveys, may be required.
- If your project involves preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment, this NDDDB consultation and determination should not be substituted for conducting biological field surveys assessing on-site habitat and species presence.
- This determination applies only to the project as described in the submission and summarized at the end of this letter. Please re-submit an updated Request for Review if the project's scope of work and/or timeframe changes, including if work has not begun by 9/29/2027.
- If biological surveys have been conducted in accordance with Best Management Practices provided, please forward a copy of the results to the address listed at the end of this letter. Include the Project Name and Determination Number on all correspondence.

The NDDDB – New determination for the HRRR Regional Composting Facility at 44 Maple Street, Kent, as described in the submitted information and summarized at the end of this document is valid until 9/29/2027. This determination applies only to the project as described in the submission and summarized at the end of this letter. Please re-submit an updated Request for Review if the project's scope of work and/or timeframe changes, including if work has not begun by 9/29/2027.

This letter is computer generated and carries no signature. If however, any clarification is needed, or, if you have further questions, please contact the following:

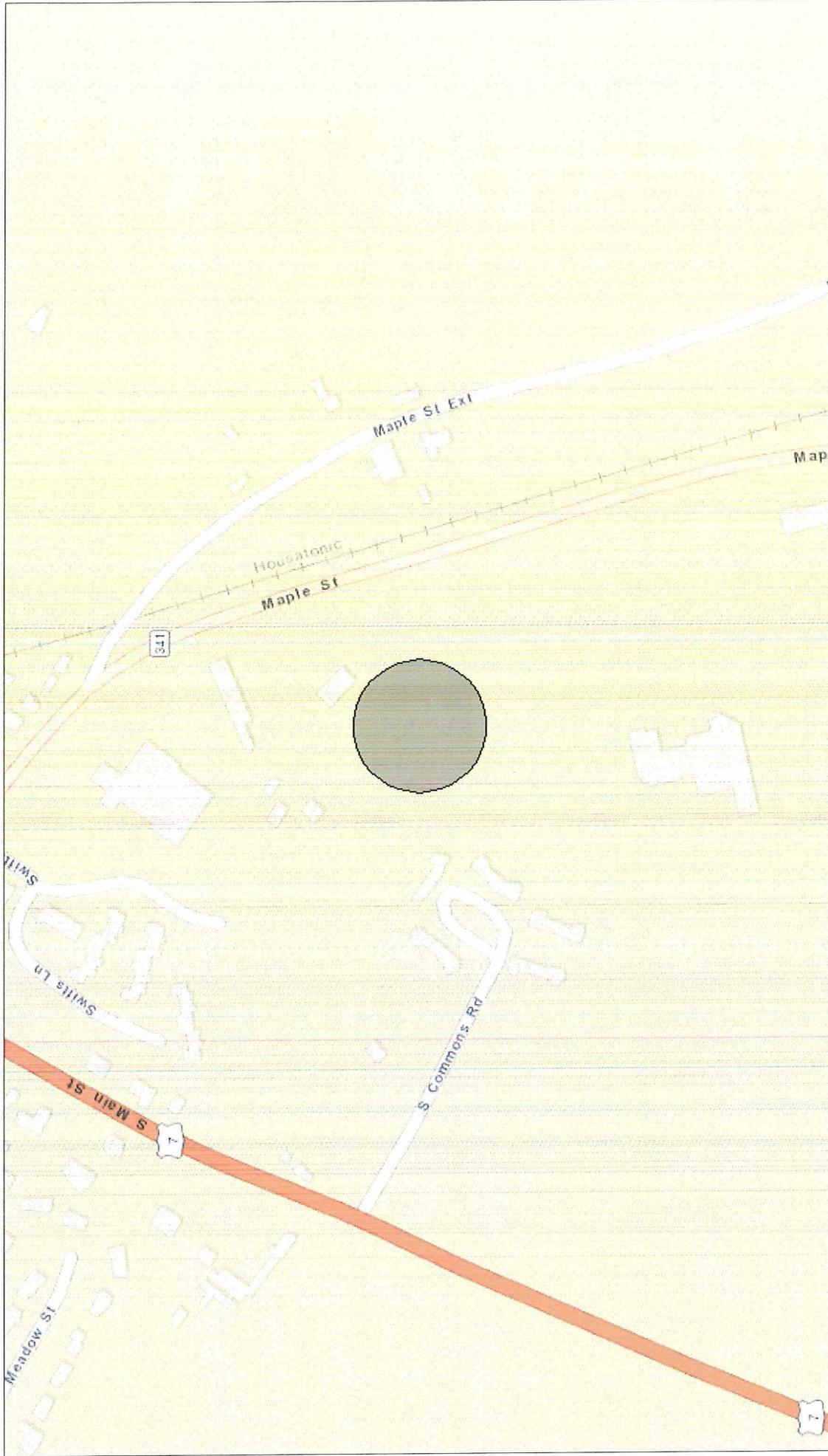
CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division
Natural Diversity Database, 6th floor
79 Elm Street,
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
(860) 424-3011
deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov

Please reference the Determination Number provided in this letter when you e-mail or write. Thank you for submitting your project through DEEP's ezFile portal for Natural Diversity Database reviews.

Application Details:

Project involves federal funds or federal permit:	No
Project involves state funds, state agency action, or relates to CEPA request:	Yes
Project requires state permit, license, registration, or authorization:	Yes
DEEP enforcement action related to project:	
Project Type:	Building and Infrastructure Development (including stormwater discharge associate with construction)
Project Sub-type:	New Commercial, Industrial, Governmental
Project Name:	HRRA Regional Composting Facility
Project Description:	

HRRRA Regional Composting Facility Map



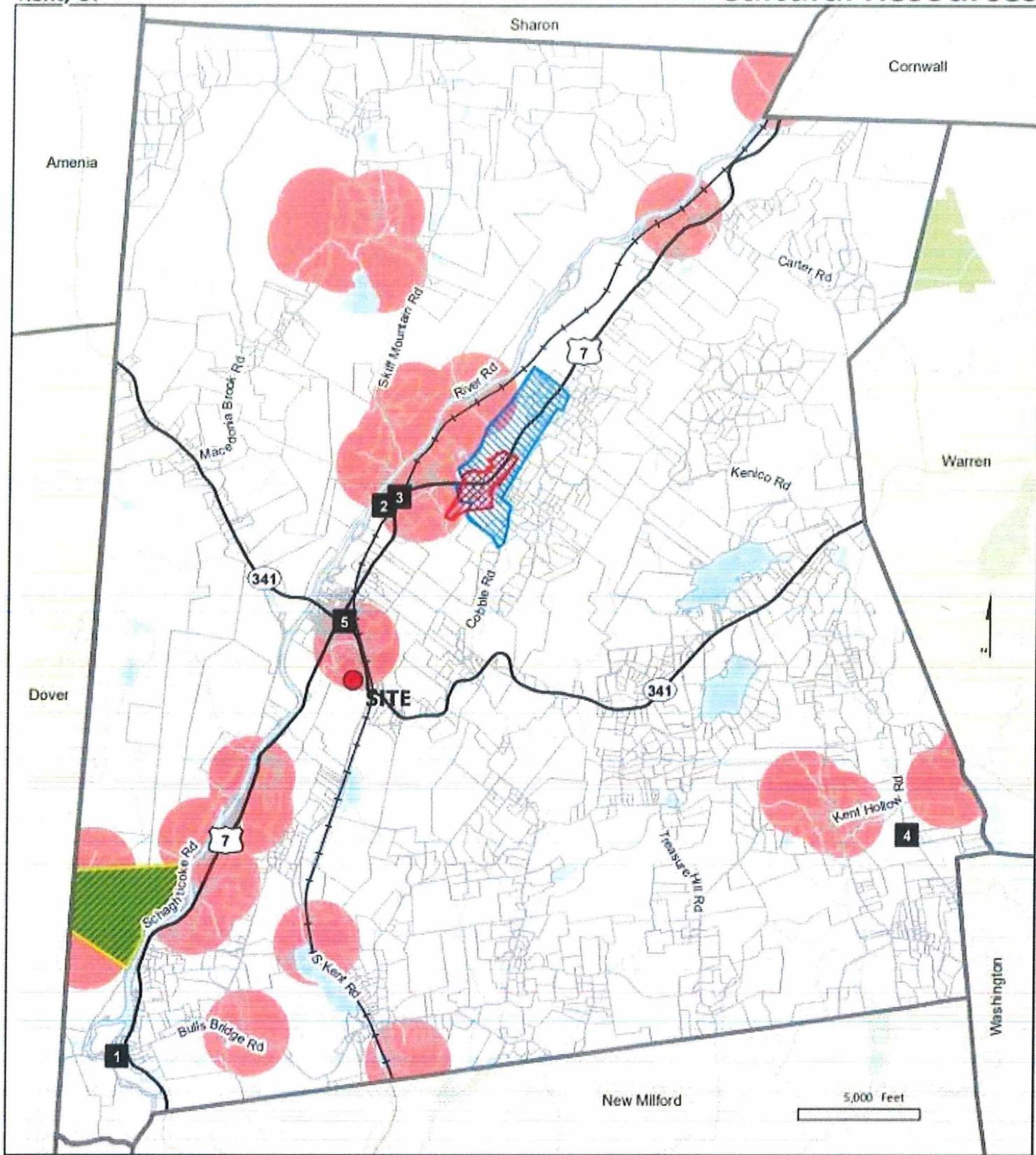
September 24, 2025

1:4,799

0 0.04 0.08 0.16 mi

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Places (NRHP/SRHP)

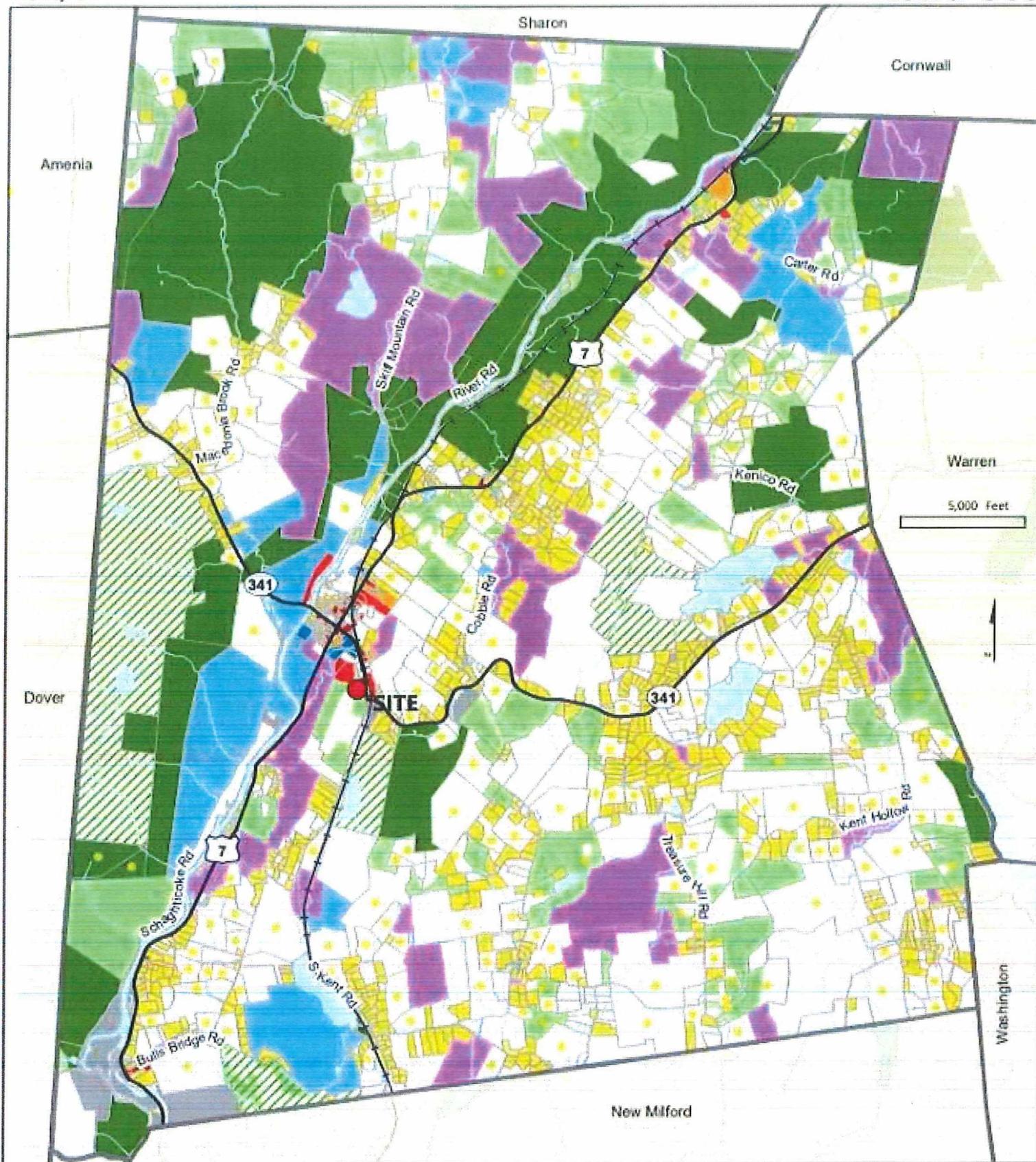
- 1** Bull's Bridge
- 2** Kent Iron Furnace
- 3** Eric Sloane Museum
- 4** Captain Philo Beardsley House
- 5** Soldiers Monument

Flanders Historic Districts

-  Local
-  NRHP

Other Resources

-  Schaghticoke Reservation
-  Archeological Sensitivity



Residential

- Single-Family Residential
- 2-4 Family/Multi-House
- Multi-Family

Protected Lands

- Federal/State/Town
- Easement
- Land Trust
- Schaghticoke Reservation

Other

- Business
- Club / Camp
- Utility
- Community Facility
- Institutional

Vacant

- Vacant

Natural Diversity Data Base
Areas
KENT, CT
June 2022

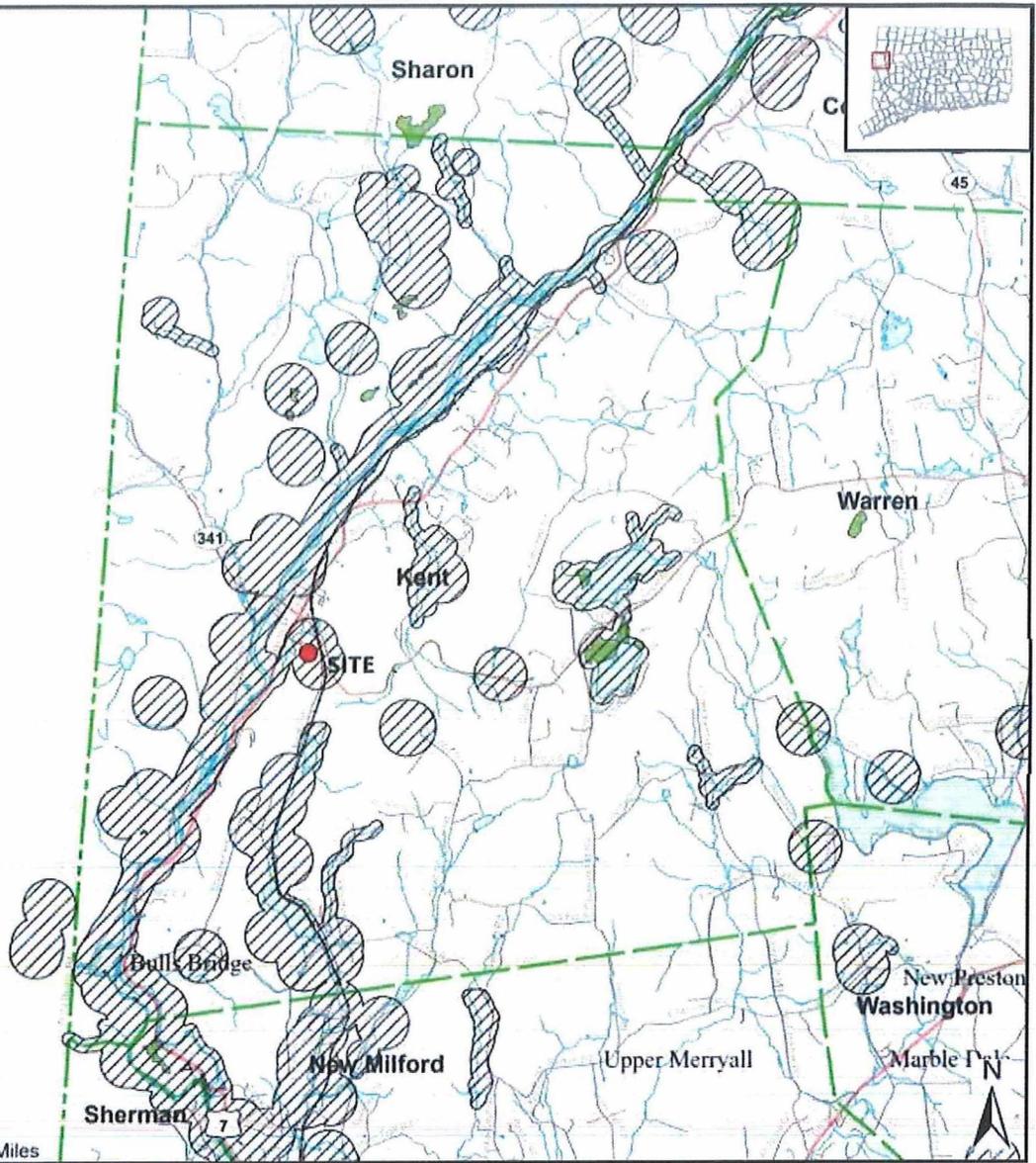
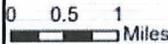
-  State and Federal Listed Species
-  Critical Habitat
-  Town Boundary

NOTE: This map shows general locations of State and Federal Listed Species and Critical Habitats. Information on listed species is collected and compiled by the Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) from a variety of data sources. Exact locations of species have been buffered to produce the generalized locations.

This map is intended for use as a preliminary screening tool for conducting a Natural Diversity Data Base Review Request. To use the map, locate the project boundaries and any additional affected areas. If the project is within a hatched area there may be a potential conflict with a listed species. For more information, complete a Request for Natural Diversity Data Base State Listed Species Review form (DEP-APP-007), and submit it to the NDDDB along with the required maps and information. More detailed instructions are provided with the request form on our website.
<https://portal.ct.gov/deep-nddbrequest>

Use the CTECO Interactive Map Viewers at <http://cteco.uconn.edu> to more precisely search for and locate a site and to view aerial imagery with NDDB Areas.

QUESTIONS: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
79 Elm St, Hartford, CT 06106
email: deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov
Phone: (860) 424-3011

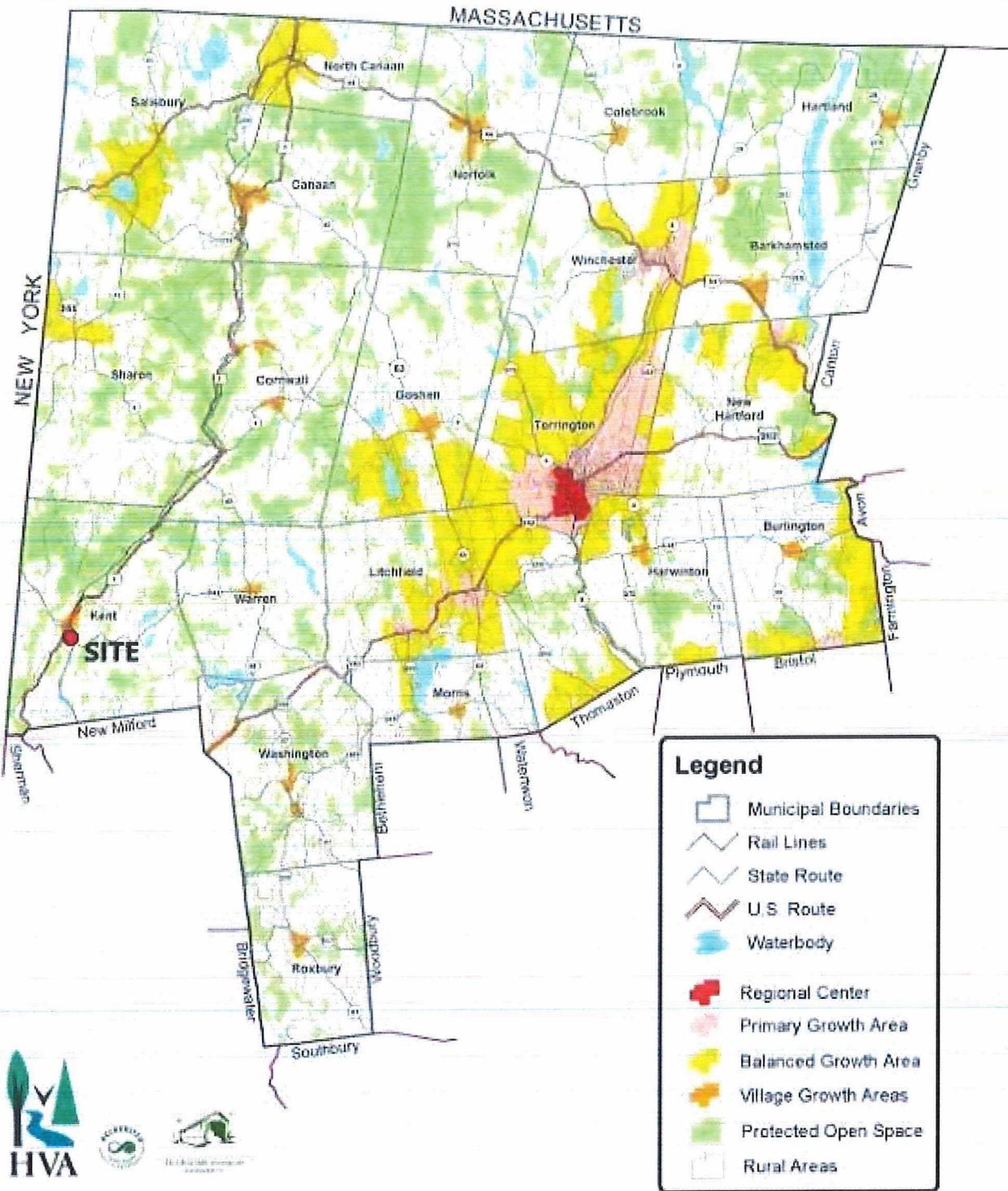




Sustainable Growth Policy Map

Northwest Hills Council of Governments Region

Detailed maps available on NHCOC website



Legend

- Municipal Boundaries
- Rail Lines
- State Route
- U.S. Route
- Waterbody
- Regional Center
- Primary Growth Area
- Balanced Growth Area
- Village Growth Areas
- Protected Open Space
- Rural Areas



Map Data Sources

Protected Open Space data layer created by The Housatonic Valley Association in cooperation with the Litchfield Hills Conservancy.

Municipal boundaries and waterbodies provided by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP/CTECP).

Rail lines, U.S. routes, and state routes layers provided by the U.S. Census (TIGER Data).

Primary Growth Areas, Balanced Growth Areas, Village Growth Areas and Rural Areas adapted from Connecticut Office of Policy and Management's (CT OPM) Conservation and Development Policy Plan.

Regional Center provided by the City of Torrington.



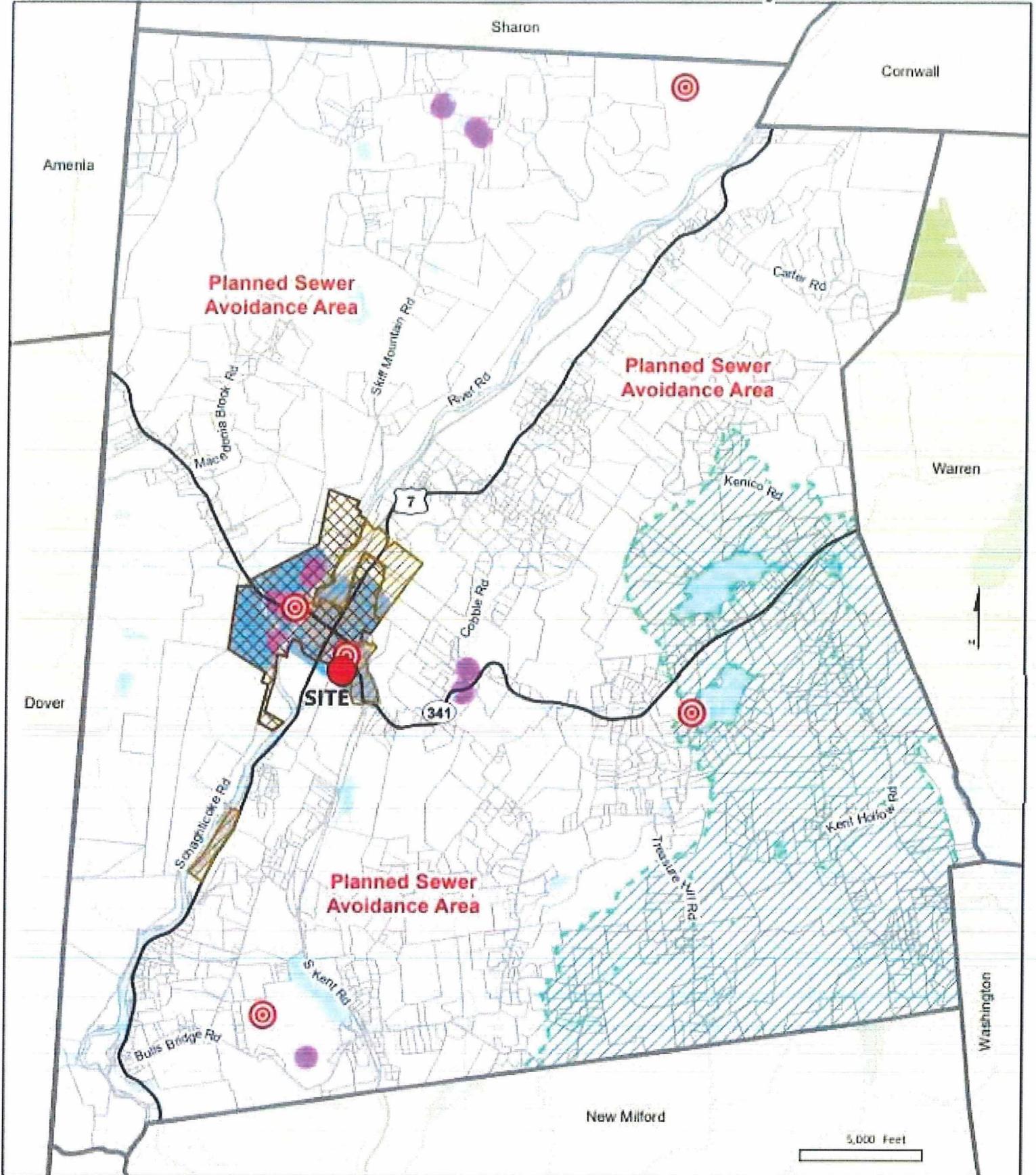
Map Notes

When considering infrastructure investments the conservation focus areas shown on the conservation policy maps should also be taken into consideration.

Map prepared by
Darcy Dering
GIS Manager
Housatonic Valley Association

Map Created: 10/3/2011

Connecticut State Plane Projection as the North American Datum (1983) (NAD83)



- | | | |
|--|--|--|
|  Public Water Service Area |  Existing Public Sewer Service Area |  Cell Tower |
|  Public Water Supply Watershed Areas |  Possible Future Sewer Service Area | |
|  Area of Contribution to Public Supply Well | | |



BACKGROUND

What is the Locational Guide Map?

Based on a new methodology, this Locational Guide Map seeks to identify activity zones of varying types and intensities across the state. It is intended to be descriptive, not prescriptive, and considered alongside the C&D Plan's policies and implementation measures so that state agencies may better target plans, programs, and actions appropriately.

What are Activity Zones?

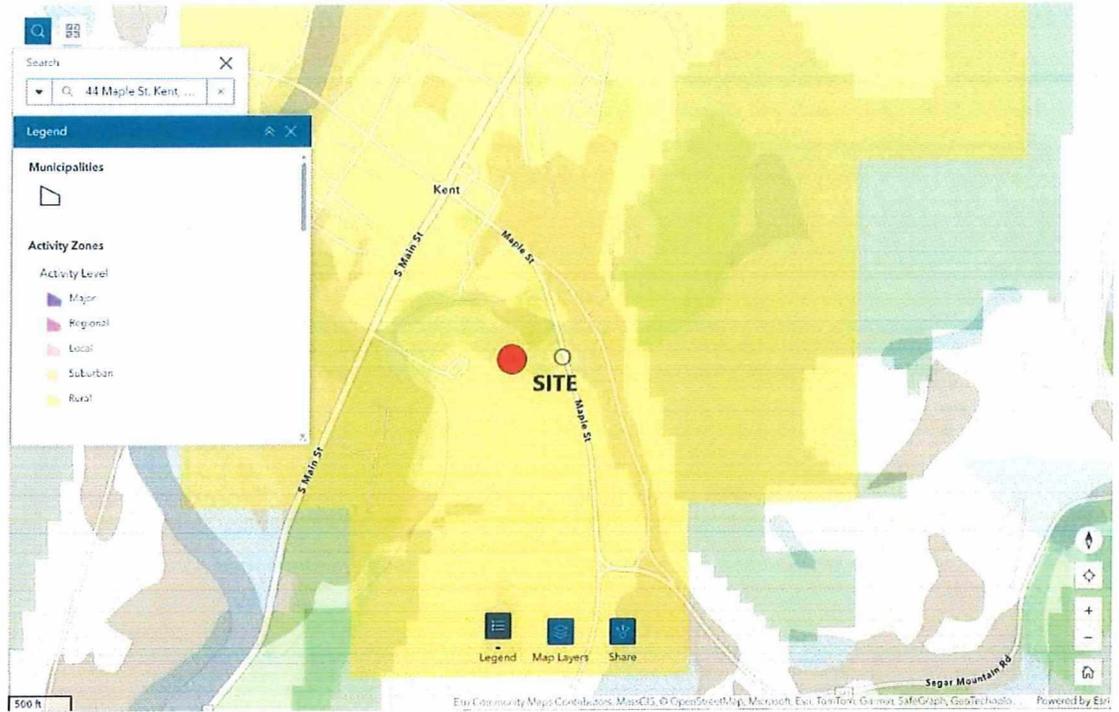
Activity Zones are where employment hubs, medical and educational institutions, civic and commercial uses, cultural attractions, and transportation assets cluster at local scales.

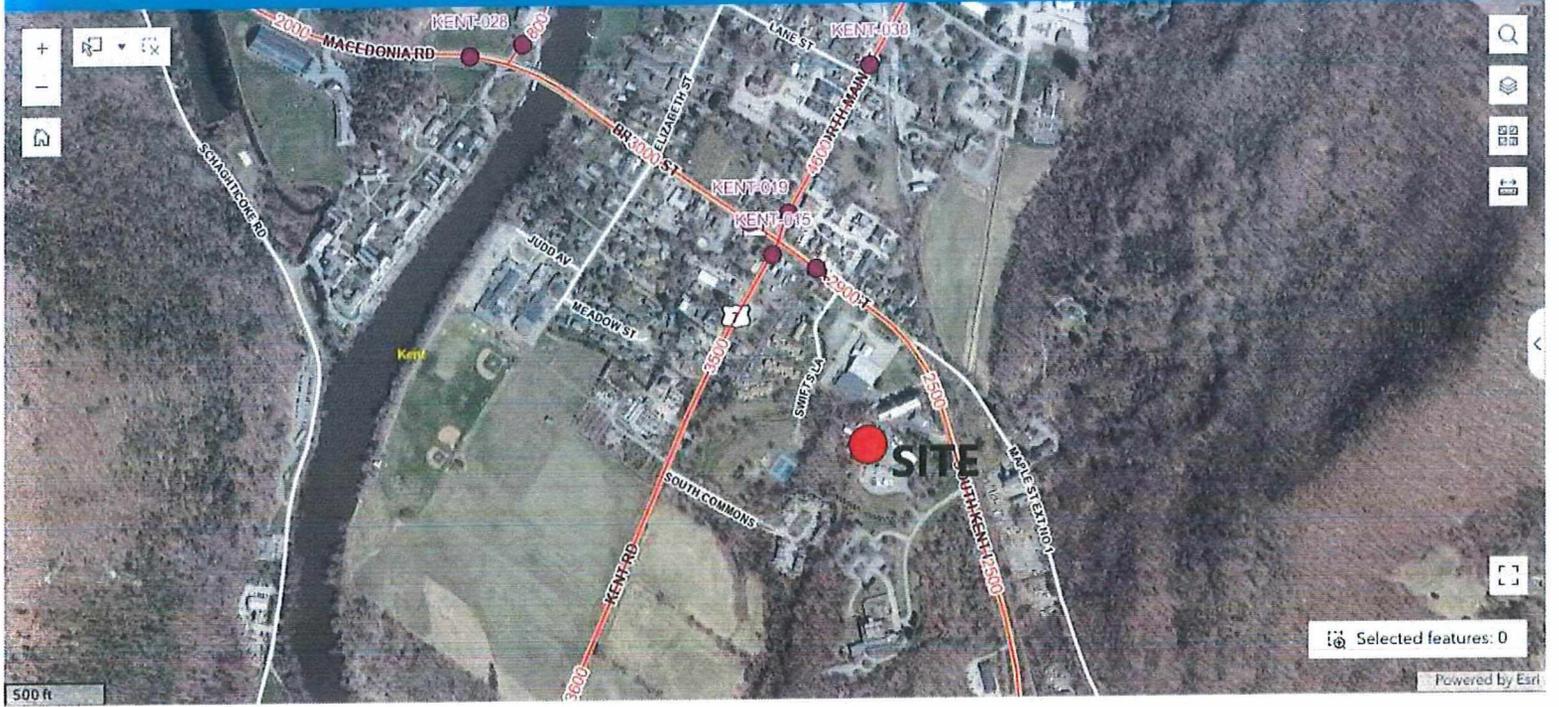
Activity zones were classified based on the types of activity present within them and ranked according to their relative intensities:

- Major
- Regional

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

- To view a list of the layers on the LGM, click on the "Map Layers" widget. Once this pane is open, turn off individual layers by hovering over the layer you wish to disable and clicking on the eye symbol on the right. A slash should appear through the eye symbol, and the layer won't be visible on the map. Simply click the

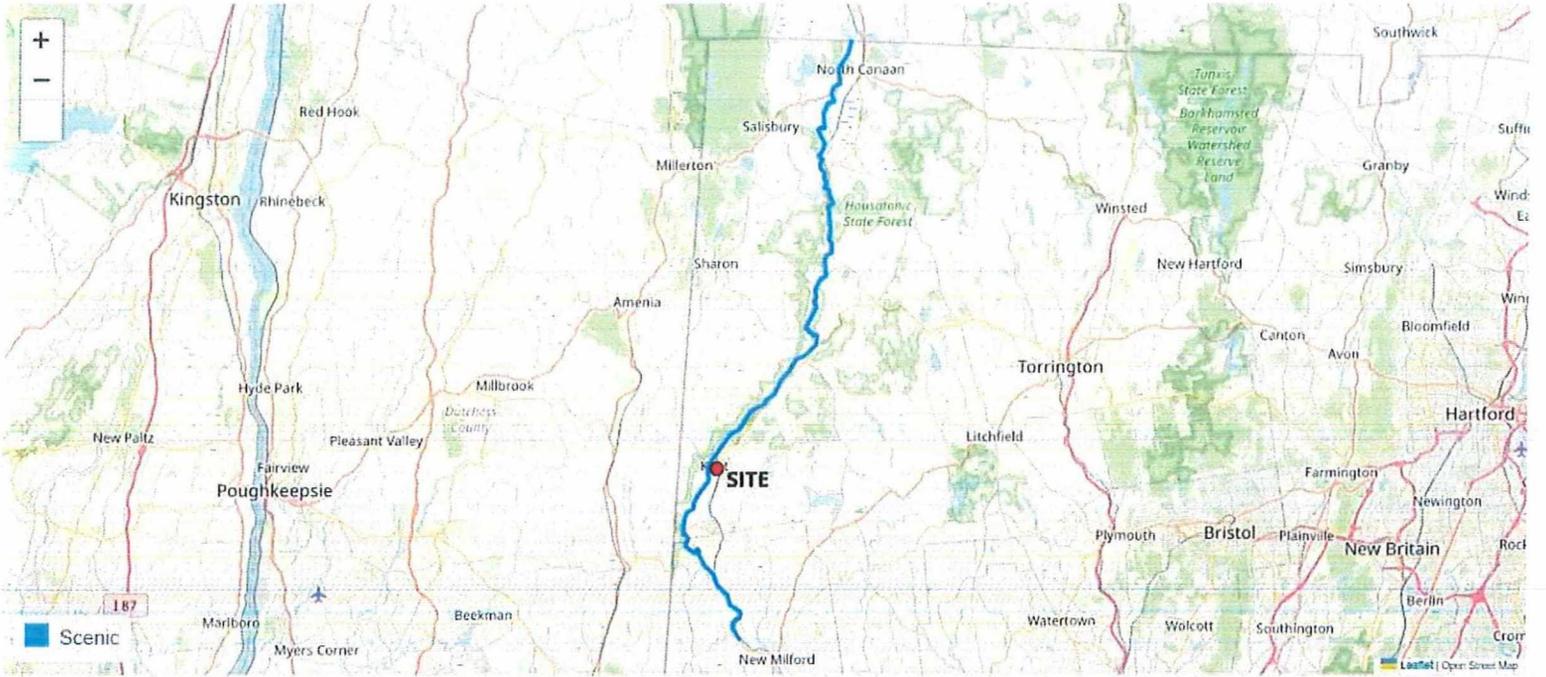




Housatonic River

Connecticut

The Housatonic River Basin lies principally in western Connecticut and southwestern Massachusetts, with small sections extending into southeastern New York. This area is well known for its charming rural character, historical heritage, and natural beauty, which is remarkable considering its proximity to large urban centers in the northeast. The Housatonic River supports outstanding scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, historic value, and wildlife/vegetation.



APPENDIX E
Environmental Impact Evaluation

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION

FOR THE
REGIONAL COMPOSTING FACILITY PROJECT

TOWN OF KENT – HRRA

January 2026

Final Record Copy

VFA – Volatile Fatty Acids
VOC – Volatile Organic Compounds
WTE – Waste-to-Energy

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APPENDIX A – NDDDB L1 Approval Letter and Report with BMPs

List of Acronyms

ASP – Aerobic Static Pile
BMP – Best Management Practices
CEJST – United States’ Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
CEPA – Connecticut Environmental Policy Act
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
CMMS – Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy
CS – Carbon Disulfide
CTDOT – State of Connecticut Department of Transportation
DEEP – State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
DEM – Digital Elevation Model
DMDS – Dimethyl Disulfide
DMS – Dimethyl Sulfide
ECD – Environmental Classification Document
EIE – Environmental Impact Evaluation
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map
GHG – Greenhouse Gases
H₂S – Hydrogen Sulfide
HAP – Hazardous Air Pollutants
HRRRA – Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority
IWQR – Integrated Water Quality Report
kWh – Kilowatt Hours
MMI – Material Management Infrastructure
MSW – Municipal Solid Waste
NAAQS – National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NDDDB – National Diversity Database
NHCOG – Northwest Hills Council of Governments
NMFS – National Marine Fisheries Service
NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWCTD – Northwestern Connecticut Transit District
OPM – State of Connecticut Office of Policy Management
PILOT – Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PM – Particulate Matter
POCD – Plan of Conservation & Development
RCSA – Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies
SHPO – State of Connecticut Historic Preservation Office
SOP – Standard Operating Procedure
SSO – Source-Separated Organics
SSURGO – Soil Survey Geographic Database
USEPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS – United States Fish & Wildlife Service

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background/Purpose & Need

The Purpose of this Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant administered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is to provide funds to the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority (HRRRA) to construct a solar-powered regional in-vessel composting facility at the Kent transfer station to process food scraps on-site. Processing the food scraps on-site will provide readily available compost for residents, local community groups, farmers, and for municipal use, which will incentivize participation. In addition, the Kent location will serve as a drop-off location to support the food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR food scrap collection receptacles in the Northern HRRRA region. The location will act as a local hub for surrounding municipalities to be able to implement additional municipal food scraps programs. The facility will be situated on approximately 5,000 square feet of land owned by the Town of Kent at 44 Maple Street (Route 381) in the Town of Kent.

With this facility, HRRRA will provide the infrastructure to create a sustainable, scalable system for diverting Source Separated Organics (SSO) from the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) stream, to be turned into a high-quality soil amendment for residents of the HRRRA region. Creation of this facility will save HRRRA municipalities money in the face of rising waste management costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by trucks and landfilling, sequester carbon in the natural process of composting, help alleviate the state's waste disposal crisis by reducing MSW tonnages, and help advance progress towards the statewide 60% diversion rate set forth in Connecticut's Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS). The project will be completed in general conformance with the MMI grant application as submitted by HRRRA and further described in a Grant Assistance Agreement to be executed by and between DEEP and HRRRA.

This EIE is intended to assess any potential environmental impacts of the proposed action being funded under this specific MMI Grant award. The review and detailed analysis preset herein utilized publicly available quantitative and qualitative information for both the existing and proposed conditions. If during the course of implementing the proposed action described in this EIE re-evaluation of the project results in modifications to the proposed action, it is not anticipated that minor changes, amendments, or adjustments would require the development of a new EIE.

In accordance with the regulations of the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act Sections 22a-1a-1 to 22a-1a-12, the findings of the environmental review are summarized below.

The agency contact for this project is:

Michael T. Looney
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: 860-424-3530
Email: michael.looney@ct.gov

1.2 Public Involvement

Given that the proposed action would constitute a state-funded action that could have impacts on the environment, the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) was investigated to determine its pertinence to the proposed action and the process for appropriate environmental review and noticing. DEEP operates its CEPA process under the Generic Environmental Classification Document (ECD) as promulgated by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for use by state agencies that do not have their own agency-specific ECD. Examination of this document and the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA), Sections 22a-1a-1 to 22a-1a-12, determined that a Notice of Scoping needed to be prepared, followed by a Post Scoping Notice after the required 30 day public comment period. The next steps after the Post Scoping Notice were to be determined by the comments received during the public comment period and the specifics of the CEPA statutes and regulations.

In the May 20, 2025 issue of the Environmental Monitor, a Notice of Scoping for Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure was published. The public comment period concluded on June 19, 2025, and no public comments were received regarding the proposed action.

Although no comments were received during the public review period, upon review of the ECD, it was determined that as a “regional solid waste facility,” the proposed action necessitated the completion and publishing of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE). In the August 5, 2025 issue of the Environmental Monitor, a Post-Scoping Notice for Regional Composting Facility in Kent was published, which explained that an EIE was being prepared for the proposed action, as the current ECD lists regional solid waste facilities as requiring an EIE. This EIE is available for public review and comment.

2.0 ALTERNATIVES

This section describes the alternatives considered for the regional in-vessel composting facility. DEEP has evaluated the following alternatives as part of its grant action:

- **Proposed Action:** Execute the grant assistance agreement for the HRRR Regional Composting Facility.
- **No Action:** Not execute the grant for the HRRR Regional Composting Facility.

2.1 Alternative 1 – The Proposed Action (as provided in HRRR’s MMI grant application)

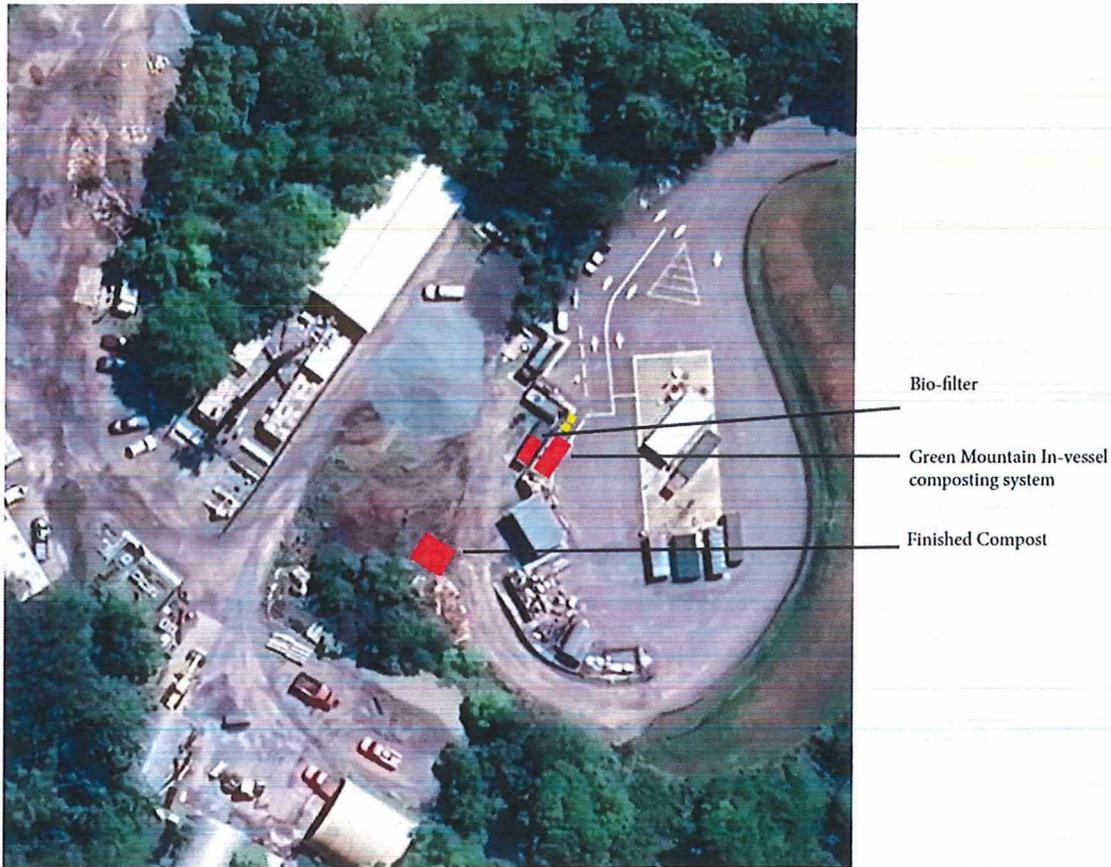
The proposed action includes installing a solar-powered in-vessel composting system by at the Kent transfer station to process food scraps on-site. Processing the food scraps on-site will provide readily available compost for residents, local community groups, farmers, and municipal use which will incentivize participation. In addition, the Kent location will serve as a drop-off location to support the food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTORs in the Northern HRRR region. The location will act as a local hub for surrounding municipalities to be able to implement additional municipal food scraps programs.



HRRRA is currently in discussions to expand collection with neighboring adjacent, non-HRRRA member communities to bring their material for processing therefore expanding the municipalities being served beyond HRRRA. In addition, food scraps collected from the satellite metroSTOR containers in the Northern HRRRA region will be transported to the Kent transfer station, rather than being trucked to New Milford Farms or Quantum Biopower in Southington. This infrastructure will improve, expand, and provide waste reduction for organics management services to this part of the region and beyond. This infrastructure will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of food scraps collection and reduce the operating cost to the Town. HRRRA has been implementing food waste diversion programs for ten years; improving collection, processing and becoming more self-sustainable to demonstrate that municipalities can create a closed-loop sustainable composting system to manage food waste locally, reducing the carbon footprint of offsite disposal and contributing to the waste diversion goals of the state.

Appendix B

Town of Kent Transfer Station - Solar Powered Composting System Proposal



2.2 Alternative 2 – No Action

The No Action Alternative consists of not constructing the proposed regional in-vessel composting facility. Given the realities of the Connecticut waste management infrastructure network, the No Action Alternative does not meet the purpose and need for waste reduction and waste diversion from the region's and the State of

Connecticut's waste streams. Food waste diversion will be further constrained in the region; although small local composting operations will continue to function, it will be very difficult to expand and increase waste diversion opportunities in western Connecticut, which can be very costly. Without increased capacity in waste diversion infrastructure, the region will need to continue incinerating its waste at roughly the same rate as in 2025 for the foreseeable future, incurring the cumulative environmental impacts associated with this form of disposal. Therefore, DEEP has determined that the No Action Alternative is not a feasible alternative.

3.0 Required Licenses, Permits, and Certifications to Implement the Proposed Action

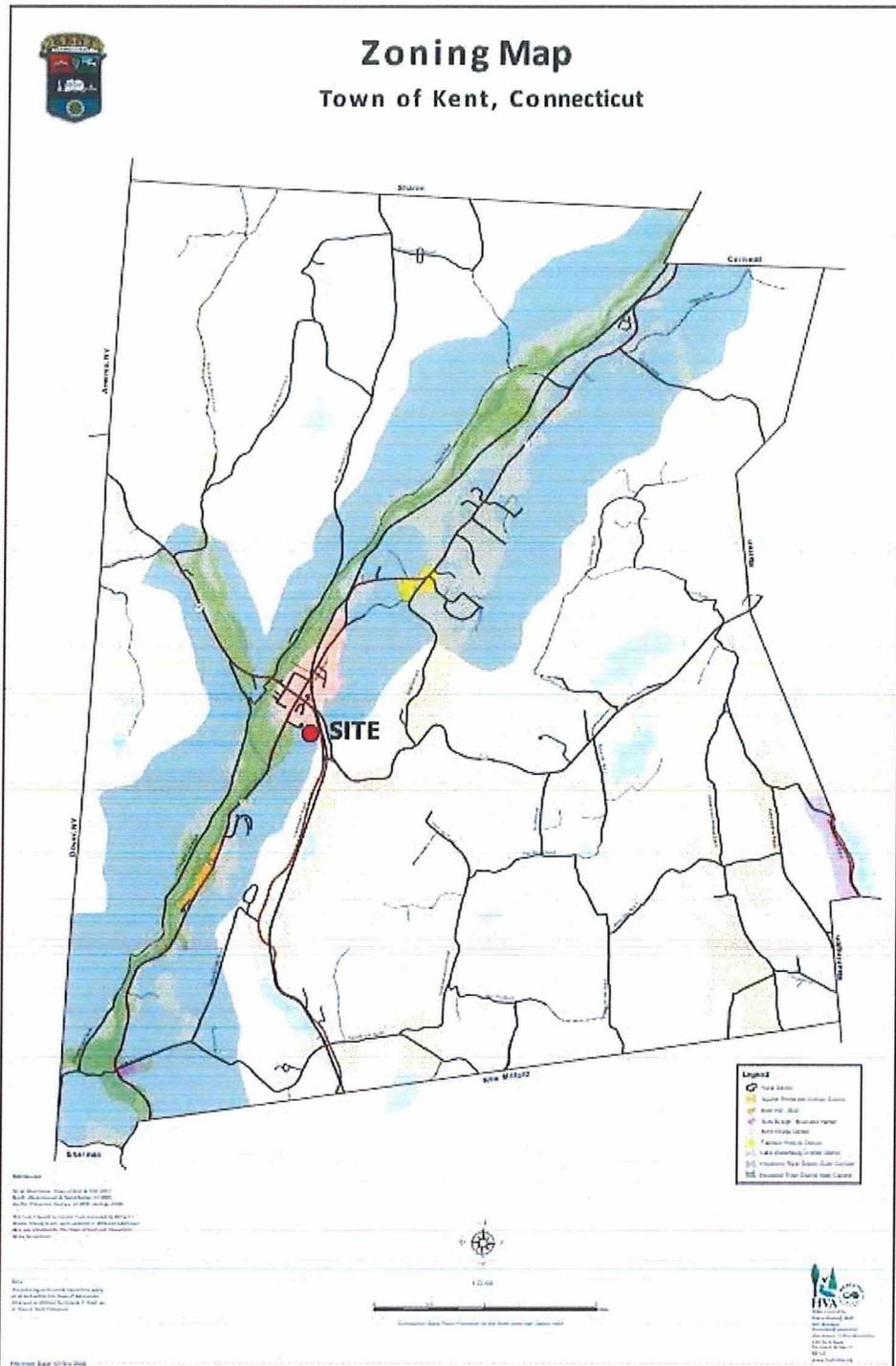
It is expected that in order to operate the proposed regional composting facility in Kent, HRRRA will need to obtain a DEEP Permit for Construction and Operation of a Solid Waste Facility from the department's Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division. The project will also require a Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewater Associated with Construction Activities – General Permit Registration, an NDDDB Review Request (endangered, threatened, and special concern species and habitats), and an Individual NPDES Wastewater Permit for Discharge of Leachate or Co-Mingled Stormwater. In addition, local building permits and land use/zoning permits will be required prior to site disturbance and construction activities commencing.

4.0 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

The following subsections address the various environmental and development areas of consideration and potential impacts associated with the proposed action. Specific mitigation measures for identified impacts stemming from the execution of the proposed action are described as applicable, inclusive of the necessity to adopt such mitigation measures to avoid any potential significant impacts.

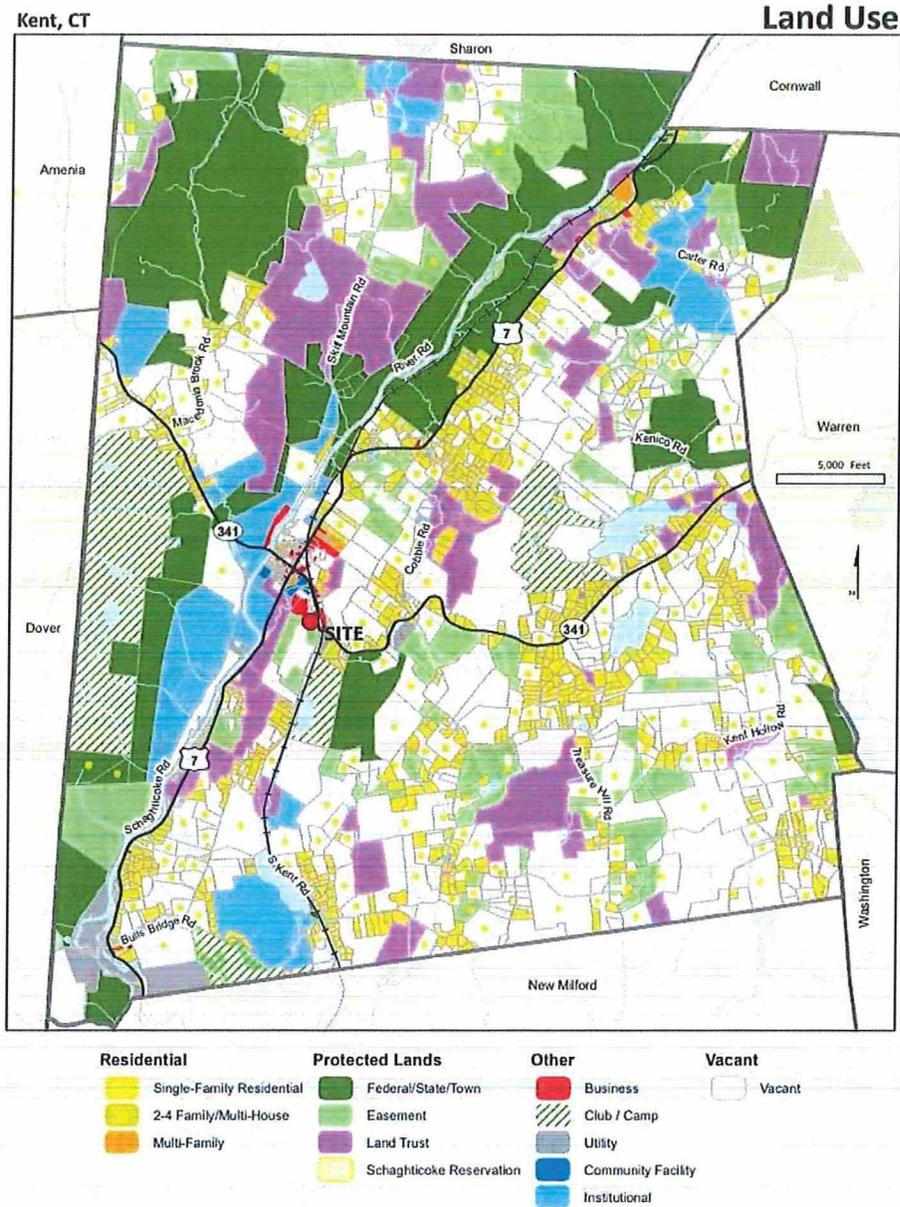
4.1 Land Use Planning and Controls

The site of the proposed action is located within the Rural Residential (RU-1) zone and the Housatonic River Overlay District (HROD) Outer Corridor zone under the Town's Zoning Regulations. The Zoning Regulations note that *“the Rural Residential district is intended to guide residential development in accordance with soil types, terrain, and other environmental considerations and with due consideration for the character of the community.”* The regulations also state that *“the purpose of the Housatonic River Overlay District (HROD) is to protect, in a cooperative effort with neighboring towns and with appropriate uniform standards, the Kent segment of a carefully defined area of land designated as the Housatonic River Corridor, which is deemed to be flood prone, environmentally sensitive and to possess many valuable natural resources and historic sites.”* The HROD zoning designation provides additional regulatory language on top of the underlying RU-1 regulations.

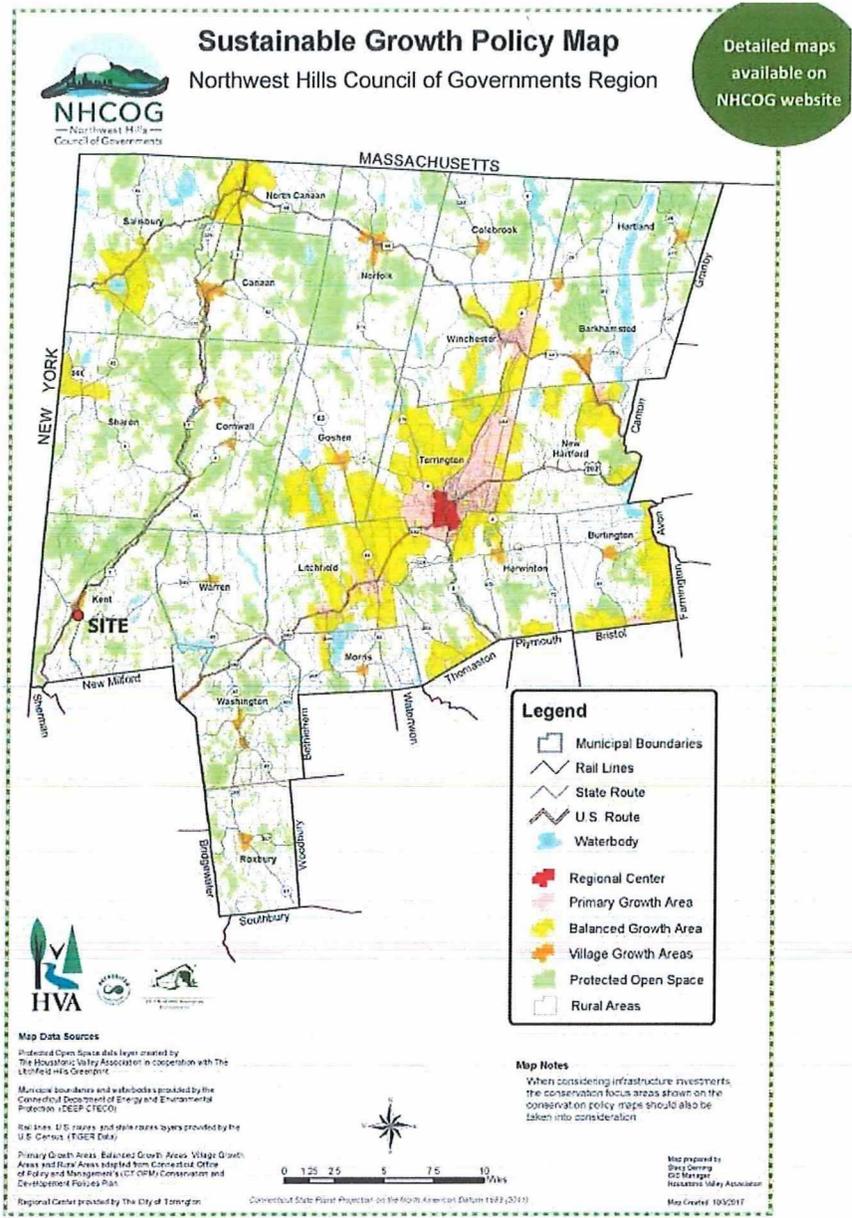


In the Outer Corridor subarea, an additional zoning requirement has put in place as follows: *“Activities involving construction or earth moving shall be reviewed with regard to soil types in exposed areas to determine whether provisions shall be made for special erosion and sediment control in accordance with current guidelines available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.”*

In the Town of Kent's 2022-2032 Plan of Conservation and Development, the Land Use Map has the site of the proposed action identified as "Community Facility," as the proposed site shares a parcel with the existing municipal transfer station. In reviewing the Goals & Objectives of the Plan of Conservation Development, the proposed action is consistent with the Plan and its recommendations for the future of the Town.



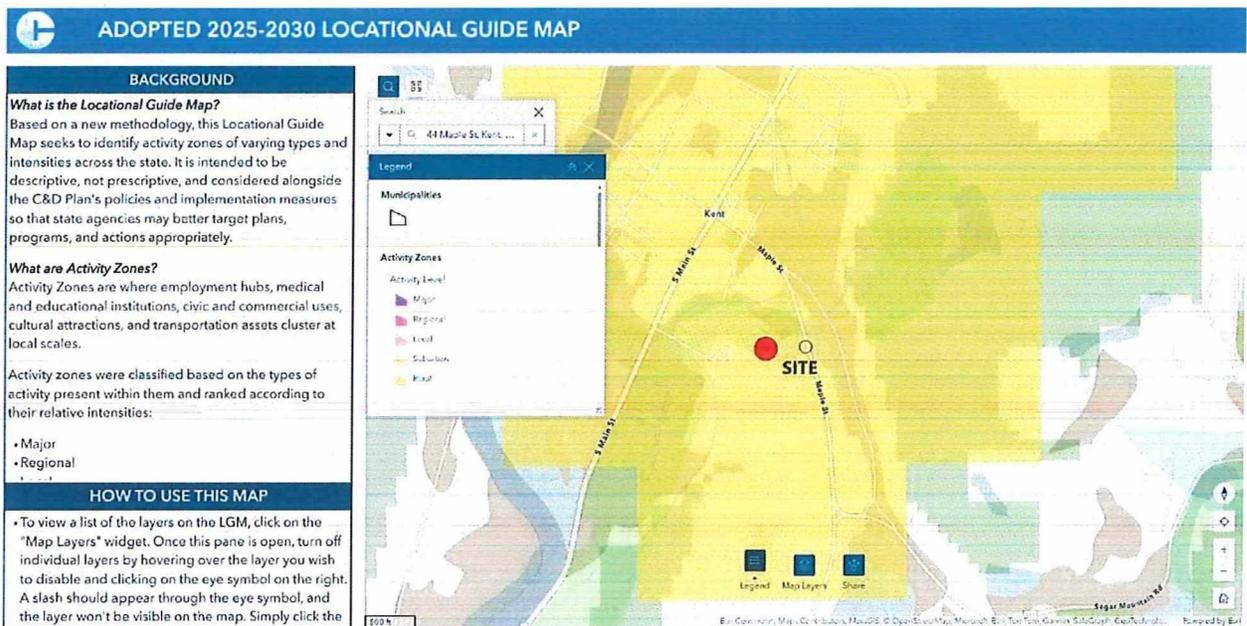
The Northwest (CT) NEXT 2017-2027 Regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) issued by the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) is the regional planning document that provides guidance to the Town of Kent and impacts the development of the site of the proposed action. Under the 2017 Regional POCD, the Sustainable Growth Policy Map identifies the site of the proposed action as "Village



Growth Area.” As a point of reference, “Village Growth Area” is defined in the POCD as follows: “These areas were determined locally and represent the traditional village centers of our rural towns. In most cases they are not served by public water and/or sewer. Investments in these areas that would be consistent with the Regional Plan include infill housing, sidewalks, bikeways, and “Main Street” improvements. Any action or investment should take into consideration ways to strengthen or improve the traditional village character of these areas.”¹ The proposed action is consistent with the Regional POCD’s future development objectives and is not inconsistent with any of the POCD’s identified goals and strategies for regional development.

¹ Northwest (CT) NEXT 2017-2027 Regional Plan of Conservation and Development, pg. 17.

The Connecticut Conservation and Development Policies Plan, 2025-2030 (C&D Plan) was adopted by the Connecticut General Assembly via House Joint Resolution No.67 on March 5, 2025. The Adopted 2025-2030 Locational Guide Map indicates that the site of the proposed action falls within the “Rural” Activity Zone designation. In the associated text section, the Plan notes that Rural activity zones consist of “clusters of civic, cultural, and some commercial uses in relatively small geographic areas at less concentrated levels. Traditional village centers and other nodal areas of activity within less densely developed regions of the state make up Rural Activity Zones.”² Given the fact that the site of the proposed action shares a parcel with a pre-existing municipal transfer station and is relatively low-intensity in its use, the proposed action meets the threshold of appropriateness. In addition, the site of the proposed action is located in one of the few areas of Kent where public sewer service and public water service are available, further supporting the location as an appropriate location for development in the Town.



The proposed action is either consistent with or not inconsistent with the policies and implementation measures identified for the State of Connecticut in the C&D Plan, including:

- Promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Develop coordinated capacity and infrastructure for solid waste management that provides efficient, equitable and sustainable systems that incorporate source reduction, recycling and composting
- Increasing capacity and sustainability of in-state management of Municipal Solid Waste

² Connecticut Conservation and Development Policies Plan, 2025-2030, pg. 37.

4.2 Air Quality and Resources

Impacts on air quality are determined by analyzing current environmental characteristics in comparison to the potential emissions from the proposed action. The focus is placed on whether the proposed action will cause emissions concentration to exceed any NAAQS or is additive to a present NAAQS violation, delays the attainment of any NAAQS within a reasonable timeframe, significantly increases GHG emissions above current levels, or impairs visibility of any "Class I" national park or wilderness area.

According to data from USEPA and DEEP, all of the State of Connecticut is currently in attainment for all criteria air pollutants with the exception of ozone. The site of the proposed action is located in the Greater Connecticut Ozone non-attainment area; this area, encompassing Hartford, Litchfield, New London, Tolland, and Windham counties, is also classified as "moderate" nonattainment for ozone. In addition, the Greater Connecticut area was recently reclassified from "moderate" to "serious" nonattainment for the 2015 ozone NAAQS, according to the Federal Register. This reclassification was requested by the State and indicates how difficult meeting federal ozone standards has been for the larger region.

The Clean Air Act also provides a heightened level of air quality protection for "Class I" areas, which are specifically-identified national park and wilderness areas in the nation provided with special protection under the Clean Air Act. The Town of Kent is not in a Class I Protected Area under the Clean Air Act, nor are there any Class I areas within the larger HRRRA region.

The construction of the in-vessel composting facility will require site preparation and construction activity. Land development typically causes dust and particulate matter (PM), including PM 2.5 and PM 10 from "fugitive" or non-point emission sources. Smaller amounts of other air pollutants generated by the operation of construction equipment are also present. PM 10 and PM 2.5 emissions from construction can vary greatly based upon the level of activity during a particular timeframe and site-specific characteristics such as soil composition and weather. Larger diameter dust particles (greater than 30 microns) tend to be deposited in and around the area of disturbance, while smaller diameter particles (PM 10 and PM 2.5) remain airborne until deposited through weather effects and are more likely to have human health impacts.

Construction of the proposed in-vessel composting facility will have very minor and localized impacts on air quality. To minimize any impacts, all construction vehicles must have effective emission controls and must be operated in compliance with BMPs such as reducing vehicle speeds, anti-idling requirements, etc. Impacts to air quality during construction will be localized, short-term, and less than significant with the implementation of BMPs.

Table 1 provides the estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions savings from increased diversion of approximately 182 tons of source-separated organic material (SSOM) per year from the incinerator in Bridgeport. To the extent that the region ships its municipal solid waste to out-of-state landfills, the emissions savings from the composting of food scraps will be even more positive. EPA’s WARM v.16 model has been used for calculating emissions in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Proposed Action Total Organic Waste (Food Scraps & Wood) Composted GHG Emissions	2027 Proposed Action Projection*
Baseline (Landfill)	N/A
Incineration	(13.42)
Proposed Action (Composting)	(27.69)
Incremental GHG Emissions (MTCO₂E):	(14.27)
*GHG Emissions Savings in Metric Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO ₂ E).	

Source: U.S. EPA, Waste Reduction Model Tool, Version 16.

As this table indicates, the Proposed Action will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 14 metric tons annually as compared to incineration of the food scraps, and by over 27 metric tons annually as compared to landfilling out of state.

The construction of the in-vessel composting facility’s effect on air quality will be very minor, localized, and short-term, with no significant impacts. Cumulative impacts in air quality in the Town of Kent are expected to be low, since neither the proposed action nor the “no action” scenario would have considerable air quality impacts in the area, an area marked by generally good air quality.

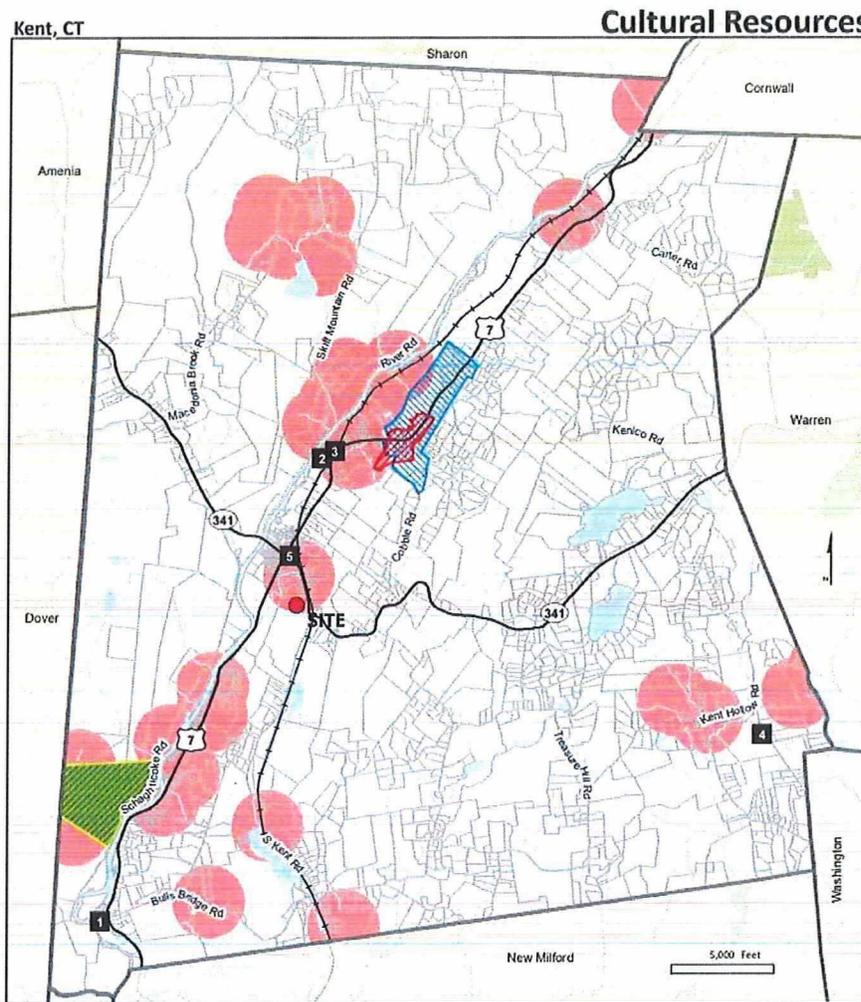
4.3 Use and Conservation of Energy Resources

Energy expenditure for the proposed action has two components: construction phase and operations phase. In terms of the construction phase, energy consumption would primarily include power for construction vehicles, production of project components, and assembly of these project components at the site of the proposed action. These energy expenditures will be quite minor in scale. In terms of the operations phase, the energy expenditures would consist of resources to operate the composting facility and equipment supporting the operations.

Using the metric of 55 kWh per ton to operate an in-vessel composter annually, with 182 tons of annual feedstock, the proposed action would draw 10,010 kWh annually. This figure is only equivalent to the energy required to power one single family home for just under one year based upon the US Energy Information Administration’s estimate of 10,500 kWh/year for a residential household. Therefore, within the scale of regional energy markets, the impact of the proposed action on energy resources is expected to be less than significant.

4.4 Cultural, Historic, and Archaeological Resources

The Town of Kent has one national historic district designation and one local historic district designation that largely overlap. The Flanders Historic Districts, a local and National Historic District, are centered around the intersection of Route 7 and Cobble Road, slightly north of the Kent village center. The “Conservation – Resources and Assets” section of the 2022-2032 Town of Kent Plan of Conservation and Development also identifies four additional properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. However, the site of the proposed action is outside of the historic district area, and would not impact any other historical properties or assets in the town.



Places (NRHP/SRHP)	Flanders Historic Districts	Other Resources
1 Bull's Bridge	Local	Schaghticoke Reservation
2 Kent Iron Furnace	NRHP	Archeological Sensitivity
3 Eric Stoane Museum		
4 Captain Philo Beardsley House		
5 Soldiers Monument		

From an archaeological standpoint, the 2022 POCD notes that “Kent has a number of areas where archeologic resources have been found and this points out that there are

likely to be additional archeologic resources which have not yet been found. Kent should be aware of (and sensitive to) the presence of archeologic resources and consider ways to protect and preserve these resources in the future.” In addition, the general area around the Kent Village Center, inclusive of the site of the proposed action, is identified in the POCD as an area of “Archaeological Sensitivity” in the POCD. However, the exact location of the proposed action is unlikely to have particular archaeological value given that it shares a parcel with the existing municipal transfer station, and therefore the site has been substantially disturbed for a significant period of time.

Therefore, no significant impacts are expected to cultural, historic, and/or archaeological resources as a result of the proposed action.

4.5 Noise, Vibration, and Odors

Noise and Vibrations: Construction activities for the proposed in-vessel composting facility will create low to moderate levels of noise; however, these noise levels would return to baseline conditions upon completion of project construction. The temporary impacts would be the result of heavy equipment operation. The construction activities would occur during daytime hours and on weekdays when noise levels of a low to moderate range would be more frequently expected and better tolerated.

In an effort to minimize any potential annoyances caused by a temporary increase in noise levels, construction activities should be limited to between 7:00am and 10:00pm. This mitigation measure would further ensure no significant impacts as a result of a short-term increase in noise. Given the site of the proposed action being approximately 340 feet distant from the nearest residential properties, construction noise is not expected to disturb residents and other sensitive noise receptors above current levels. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) data indicates that typical construction equipment and vehicles such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, bulldozers, and excavators have a maximum noise level generally between 80 decibels and 85 decibels at a distance of 50 feet. To calculate noise at a given distance (340 feet from residential properties) based upon this information, the following equation is used:

$$dB_1 = dB_0 + 20\log(d_0/d_1), \text{ where:}$$

dB_1 = the new sound level

dB_0 = the original sound level

d_0 = is the original distance from the source

d_1 = is the new distance from the source

Utilizing this equation results in the following:

$$dB_1 = 85 + 20\log(50/340)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 + 20\log(0.147059)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 + (-16.6502)$$

$$dB_1 = 85 - 16.6502$$

$$dB_1 = \mathbf{68.3 \text{ dBA}}$$

However, noise attenuating features are already present in and around the site of the proposed action. Between the site of the proposed action and the nearest residential properties lies an approximately 150-foot wide area of trees and heavy vegetation. According to the U.S. Forest Service, a 100-foot wide planted buffer will reduce noise by 5 to 8 decibels. Thus, at a width of 150 feet, it is expected that the buffer area would reduce noise levels by between 7.5 and 12 decibels. In addition, a landform/earthen berm lies along the southwestern perimeter of the site of the proposed action, in the direction of the nearest residential properties. A variety of sources indicate that such a feature can reduce noise levels by an additional 5 to 10 decibels.

Applying the noise attenuating effects of the tree and vegetation buffer and the landform/earthen berm reduces the construction period noise level as follows:

$$dB_1 = 68.3 - (7.5 \text{ to } 12.0) - (5.0 \text{ to } 10.0)$$

$$dB_1 \text{ min} = \mathbf{46.3}$$

$$dB_1 \text{ max} = \mathbf{55.8}$$

During the operational phase of the proposed in-vessel composting facility, there will be noise from basic equipment, such as from an industrial grinder, a trommel, and front-end loaders. In addition, the proposed in-vessel composter will utilize a biofilter fan, which has a typical noise level of 84 decibels at a distance of 50 feet. In addition, vibrating screens or trommels can reach 90 dBA at 50 feet, and front-end loaders have a maximum noise level generally between 80 decibels and 85 decibels.

Taking a worst-case assumption of 90 dBA generated by the facility at a distance of 50 feet results in the following noise level calculation:

$$dB_1 = dB_0 + 20\log(d_0/d_1)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + 20\log(50/340)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + 20\log(0.147059)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 + (-16.6502)$$

$$dB_1 = 90 - 16.6502$$

$$dB_1 = \mathbf{73.3 \text{ dBA}}$$

Applying the noise attenuating effects of the tree and vegetation buffer and the landform/earthen berm reduces the noise level as follows:

$$dB_1 = 73.3 - (7.5 \text{ to } 12.0) - (5.0 \text{ to } 10.0)$$

dB_1 min = 51.3

dB_1 max = 60.8

The Town of Kent does not have a municipal noise ordinance. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends general daytime noise levels of less than 55 dBA to prevent significant community annoyance. More specifically for Connecticut, Section 22a-69-3.5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) provides specific “noise zone standards” for different classes of land uses, cross-referenced by noise emitters versus noise receptors. The proposed action constitutes a “Class C” noise emitter, while the nearest residential property constitutes a “Class A” noise receptor. Under RCSA Section 22a-69-3.5, a Class C emitter has a noise level threshold at a Class A receptor of 61 dBA during the day and 51 dBA at night. Above these thresholds, noise levels are considered to be “excessive noise.”

Based upon the analysis above, construction period noise levels are expected to range from 46.3 to 55.8 decibels. Therefore, the noise impacts are expected to be less than significant, especially with the implementation of the BMP limiting hours of construction to 7:00am to 10:00pm. For the operational period, noise levels are expected to range from 51.3 to 60.8 decibels. Given that the maximum expected noise levels based upon this analysis are below the state regulations’ threshold, the noise impacts of the proposed action during the operational period are expected to be less than significant. To mitigate any potential night impacts, the operation should be required to only operate during the times of 7:00am to 10:00pm daily, in compliance with the definition of “nighttime” under RCSA Section 22a-69-1.1.

Vehicular traffic noise associated with the operation and maintenance of the facility will be incidental when considered in combination with the existing traffic use of surrounding roadways (see Section 4.10 for traffic data) and the existing truck traffic into and out of the adjacent landfill operation.

With the implementation of proper mitigation measures discussed above, the potential construction and operational noise impacts will be less than significant.

Odors: Composting facilities, while beneficial for diverting waste from landfills and creating valuable soil amendments, can generate unpleasant odors that can be a source of concern for nearby communities. These odors result from the biological activity of microorganisms during the decomposition of organic materials and can impact both air quality and human health. The two most important site management practices to reduce odors are rigorous housekeeping and water management.

Several classes of compounds contribute to compost odors:

- Volatile Fatty Acids (VFAs): These are produced as carbohydrates, fats, and oils decompose, and can create "sour-smelling" odors like vinegar (acetic acid) or rancid smells (butyric acid).
- Volatile Nitrogen Compounds: This group includes:
 - Ammonia: A pungent, irritating odor, especially when processing high-nitrogen feedstocks like manure or fish waste.
 - Amines: Foul-smelling compounds like putrescine and cadaverine, which are associated with decaying flesh.
 - Indoles: Compounds like indole and skatole, which can have a fecal odor.
- Volatile Sulfur Compounds: These are highly offensive and include:
 - Hydrogen sulfide (H₂S): The characteristic "rotten egg" smell, a sign of anaerobic decomposition.
 - Mercaptans: Strong, pungent odors reminiscent of rotten cabbage, garlic, or skunks.
 - Organic sulfides: Compounds like dimethyl disulfide (DMDS), dimethyl sulfide (DMS), and carbon disulfide (CS), which are also associated with strong, offensive odors.
- Other VOCs: Ketones, aldehydes, and alcohols also contribute to the overall odor profile of a composting facility.

The proper implementation of appropriate BMPs for odor control must be included as part of the proposed action to ensure that potential impacts from odors will be less than significant. Section 4.14 on Mitigation Measures for Potential Adverse Impacts provides additional specifics on implementing BMPs for odor control.

4.6 Geological and Soil Resources

Geological Resources: The statewide 10-foot Digital Elevation Model (DEM) surface based on the Connecticut 2000 LiDAR ground elevation data indicates that the site of the proposed action has relatively flat topography. As such, development of the site under the proposed action would require limited excavation and grading activities, thereby reducing potential impacts to the surrounding environment. The site of the proposed action is intersected by the "Owm" and "Csb" bedrock geology typologies. The "Owm" category is defined as the Basal marble member of Walloomsac Schist consisting of dark- to light-colored schistose marble. The "Csb" category is defined as the Unit B of Stockbridge Marble consisting of white to light-gray dolomite marble and schist. The quaternary geology mapping indicates that the site of the proposed action includes "Till" consisting of thin till deposits. No apparent geological hazards are evident from the mapping.

Soil Resources: Soil information is available through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and DEEP's online GIS mapping. Soils and topography at a project site are characterized prior to construction to suitability for construction and potential for erosion or other related hazards.

The soil on the site of the proposed action includes categories "31B – Copake fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes" and "31C – Copake gravelly loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes." Copake fine sandy loam offers advantages for development due to its well-drained nature, but it is important to address the need for proper soil management to prevent erosion and ensure long-term stability. Copake gravelly loam soils are generally considered a well-drained and relatively stable soil type, but some degree of susceptibility to compaction and potential for erosion can pose challenges for development.

Given the characteristics of the site of the proposed action such as relatively level topography and availability of a public sewer connection, as well as the nature of the proposed action and the previously developed status of the property, no significant impacts to geological resources are expected as a result of the proposed action.

Soil erosion is best controlled using appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and typical BMPs such as sandbag or hay bale installations, erosion blankets, and silt fences. Other BMPs can also be specified in the proposed action's stormwater pollution prevention plan, dust control plan, and/or erosion and sedimentation control plan.

Hydric Soils: No hydric soils are present on the site of the proposed action.

Prime Farmland: The site of the proposed action consists of soils identified as "Statewide Important Farmland Soils" and "Prime Farmland Soils" in the Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) database for the State of Connecticut geographic data layer. Prime Farmland Soils are defined as *"soils that have the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oil seed crops, and are also available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forestland, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water). It has the soil quality, growing season and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields or crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming practices."* Statewide Important Farmland Soils are defined as soil types *"that fail to meet one or more of the requirements of prime farmland, but are important for the production of food, feed, fiber, or forage crops. They include those soils that are nearly prime farmland and that economically produce high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods."* This category of potential farmland soils is the second level of importance out of the three farmland soil categories (after Prime Farmland Soils).

While the proposed action would impact some farmland soils, several factors associated with the proposed action significantly reduce any potential impacts to farmland as a whole. First, the site of the proposed action only includes a very small area of Prime Farmland Soils as mapped in the Farmland Soils Map, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, CFR title 7, part 657. These are the most critical soils for farmland preservation and have a greater priority than the other two categories of soils on the map. Second, given the fact that the site of the proposed action shares a land parcel with the pre-existing municipal transfer station, it is exceedingly unlikely that the site would be available in the future for utilization as actively managed farmland. Finally, the very close proximity of the municipal transfer station to the site of the proposed action, and the general incompatibility of such a use with active farming, essentially preclude any farming use of the project site going forward.

In terms of impacts as from the proposed action, construction will involve limited soil-disturbing activities, including some excavation and grading necessary to establish level surfaces. Less than approximately 5,000 square feet of land area will be affected by the soil-disturbing activities for the installation of the in-vessel composter and associated staging areas for composting inputs and finished product. Stormwater for the proposed action is further discussed in Section 4.7 Water Resources below.

Based upon this analysis, impacts on geologic and soil resources are anticipated to be less than significant with permit compliance requirements and the use of appropriate BMPs to control stormwater runoff.

4.7 Water Resources

Surface Water and Water Quality: Connecticut Water Quality mapping indicates that a small stream that branches off from the nearby Housatonic River running to the west and north of the site of the proposed action is designated Class A waters, meaning its water quality is appropriate for habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife; potential drinking water supplies; recreation; navigation; and water supply for industry and agriculture. As part of the 2022 Integrated Water Quality Report (2022 IWQR) report process, an IWQR 305(b) cycle assessment was not completed for the small stream adjacent to the site of the proposed action, but an assessment was completed for the nearby segment of the Housatonic River located in southern Kent. This assessment determined that Aquatic Life Attainment Use was “Supporting,” Recreation Use was “Not Assessed,” and Fish Consumption was “Not Supporting.”

During construction, the proposed action will include a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan with various BMPs for controlling stormwater and any potential spills. A Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewater Associated with Construction Activities – General Permit Registration will also be obtained. Compliance with the requirements and conditions of the Individual NPDES Wastewater Permit for Discharge

of Leachate or Co-Mingled Stormwater during the operations phase of the proposed action will ensure that storm water run-off impacts from the proposed action will be less than significant. Based on this, short-term and long-term impacts from the proposed action to surface waters and water quality are anticipated to be less than significant.

Estuaries: The site of the proposed action is not in close proximity to any identified estuary areas.

Freshwater Lakes and Reservoirs: No freshwater lakes or reservoirs are located in close proximity to the site of the proposed action.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: National Wild and Scenic Rivers System mapping shows that the portion of the Housatonic River that is near the project area is designated as a wild and scenic river. The identified “Outstandingly Remarkable Values” of this river segment are “Ecology,” “History,” “Recreation,” and “Scenery.” These values are further described on the National Wild and Scenic Rivers website:³

Ecology

The Housatonic Valley is a unique ecosystem that is home to a variety of plants and animals, some not found in other parts of the state. Much of this is owed to the diverse habitats of the area's agricultural lands, woodlands, wetlands, and overgrown abandoned fields. The ecological resources of the river valley include calcareous wetlands whose vegetation is uniquely suited to the marble or carbonate rocks that occur in the Housatonic Valley yet are of extremely restricted occurrence in the rest of the state. Several of these sites have been proposed for Connecticut's Critical Biological Area status. Numerous threatened, endangered, or special concern species inhabit the riverine habitats including several salamander, turtle, snake, bird, and bat species.

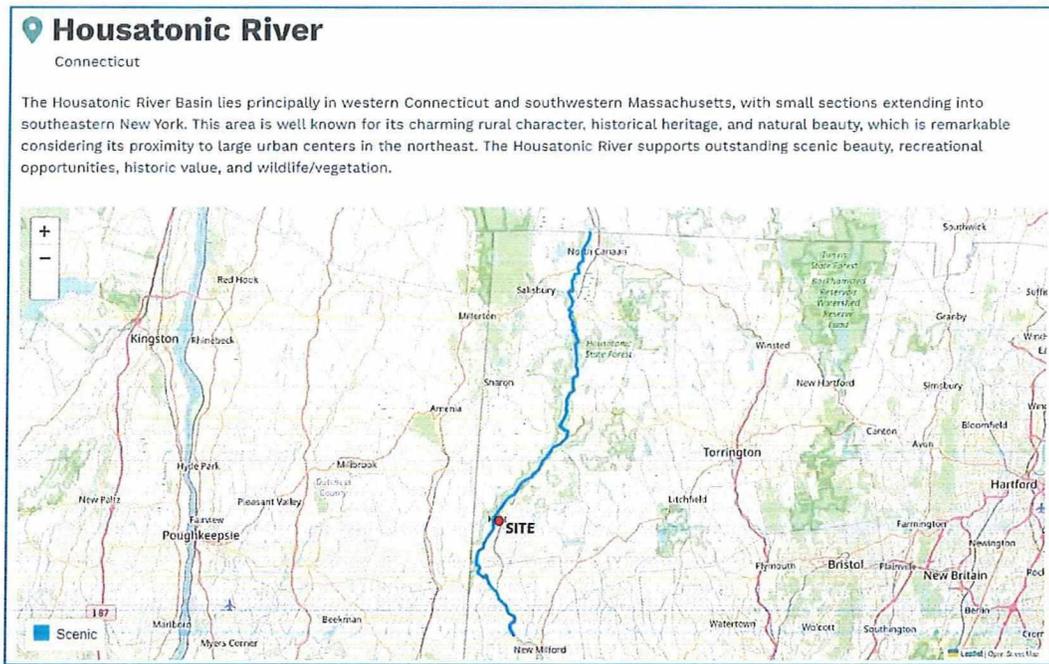
History

The Housatonic River Valley was first occupied by paleo-Indians in approximately 10,000 BC, and since that time has been occupied by three distinctive Native American cultures before the first Europeans explored the area. The Schaghticokes still have a reservation along the river in Kent.

Included on the designated river segment are two wooden covered bridges, West Cornwall and Bulls Bridge, and one wrought iron bridge, Boardman Bridge, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their engineering significance. In addition, the National Register includes the 19th Century Railroad Station at Cornwall Bridge on the east bank of the Housatonic River, and the Union Depot in

³ <https://rivers.gov/carp/river/housatonic>.

North Canaan. The state has also given recognition to a 60-acre historical district in the town of Kent which borders on the river.



Recreation

This segment of the Housatonic River is a frequently visited area due to its many recreational offerings in a picturesque setting. The Housatonic supports a wide range of river-oriented activities and is a well-known destination for canoeing, kayaking, and fly fishing. State park and forest lands in the area provide public access to the river and accommodations for boating, fishing, camping, hiking, and hunting. A section of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail runs for five miles along the west side of the Housatonic River between Kent and Cornwall Bridge. In addition to the many scenic paved and dirt roads that can be biked on, the planned HouBike Trail proposes to link existing river roads next to or near the Housatonic to produce a continuous 45-mile multi-use biking and hiking route from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border to the center of New Milford. The proposed HouBike Trail route includes approximately 35 miles of existing publicly maintained paved and dirt roads directly adjacent to the Housatonic River.

Scenery

The bucolic scenery of the Housatonic River Valley is highly diverse as the river flows through areas of steep forested mountains with prominent bedrock outcroppings near their summits, to areas of gently rolling hills and broad floodplains covered with agricultural fields and dotted with small villages. Portions of Route 4 and Route 7 have been designated scenic roads by the state and afford views of the river. Several towns within the Housatonic corridor, including Canaan, Kent, New Milford, and Sharon, have a local scenic road ordinance.

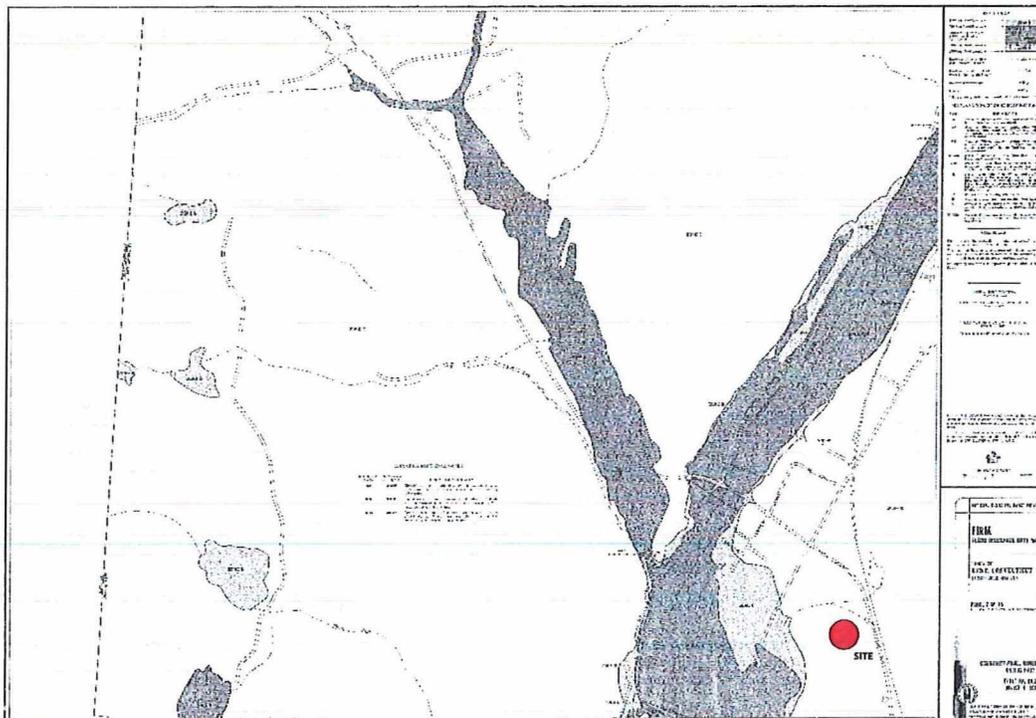
Given the very small size of the proposed action's footprint of land disturbance and the distance to the Housatonic River, any impacts on wild and scenic rivers are anticipated to be less than significant.

Aquifers: According to the state's Aquifer Protection Area Map, there are no aquifer protection areas identified within the Town of Kent.

Wetlands: The site of the proposed action does not include any inland wetland soils or delineated wetland areas.

Coastal Area Management: The site of the proposed action is not included in any designated Coastal Management Area for the State of Connecticut, and the site of the proposed action is not located within any Coastal Boundary Area.

Floodplains: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood zone data shown of FIRM Panel number 0901860007B indicates that the site of the proposed action does not intersect with any designated floodplains and lies within a "Zone C" (area of minimal flooding) area.



The proposed action avoids impacting water resources to the maximum extent practical. The implementation of BMPs will include measures to reduce or eliminate sedimentation and manage stormwater at the site. Therefore, any impacts resulting from the proposed action are anticipated to be short-term and less than significant.

4.8 Biological Resources

Impacts to biological resources resulting from the proposed action are anticipated to be less than significant and further mitigated through the implementation and use of BMPs and SOPs, appropriate construction phasing/timing, and site design measures. The subsections below discuss specific potential impacts for various components of the site area's biological resources.

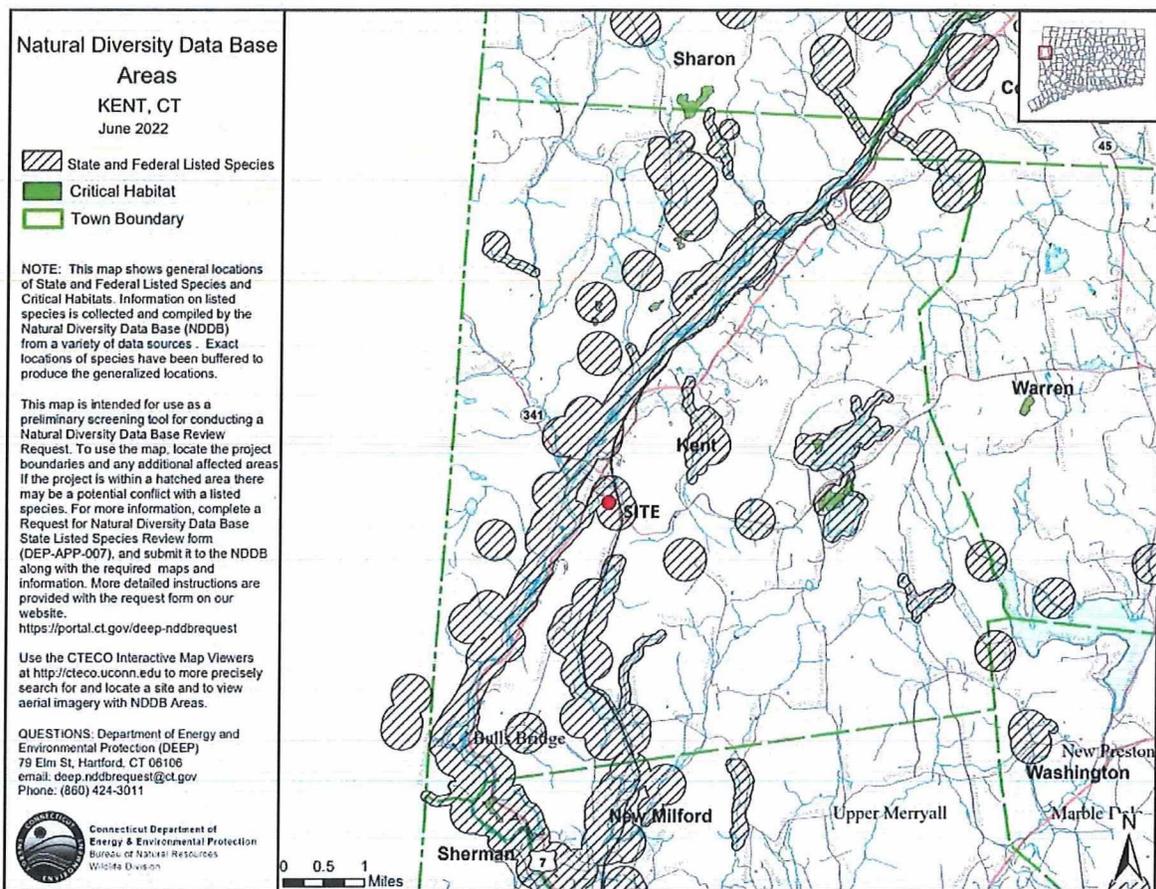
Vegetation/Flora: Implementation of the proposed action would not include any removal of trees or brush, and is not likely to cause disturbance to vegetation in adjacent areas. The site of the proposed action is located within a Natural Diversity Area that is closely associated with the nearby Housatonic River. It is not clear what species and how many species, if any, are associated with the proposed site, and HRRA will be required to submit an NDDDB Review Request (endangered, threatened, and special concern species and habitats) prior to receiving a solid waste permit to construct and operate an in-vessel composting facility. However, the fact that the proposed site has been previously disturbed and developed as the Town's municipal transfer station, and that the exact area of construction work is currently clear of vegetation, leads to the conclusion that there are unlikely to be protected species of vegetation that are impacted by the proposed action.

Wildlife/Fauna: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website and mapping tool produces a report that finds that there are 16 migratory birds with potential to occur within the area of the proposed action. However, since the project site is relatively small and has been disturbed previously, and no tree removal is expected to occur as part of the implementation of the proposed action, no impacts to migratory birds or their nesting sites are anticipated.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species: The State Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) map for the Town of Kent shows the project area and its proximity to areas where state and federal listed species and significant natural communities may exist. Three (3) species of note are indicated as intersecting with the site of the proposed action, although the species themselves are not identified by name. No impacts to these species by the proposed action are expected as the project activities are occurring in a previously developed area of an actively utilized site. Also, there is no designated critical habitat within the project area. As noted previously, an NDDDB Review Request would need to be submitted as part of the permitting process and the proposed action would comply with requests from the NDDDB program to the extent practicable. If the proposed impacted area is altered during design, DEEP/NDDDB program staff would be consulted for additional measures that may be necessary to provide the required protection for these species.

A formal NDDDB application was submitted as part of the preparation of this EIE, and an approval letter was obtained and is attached in Appendix A. The NDDDB approval letter indicated that four (4) species of concern, the Wood Turtle, Red Bat, Silver-Haired Bat, and Purple Martin have been documented within the project area or in close proximity to the site of the proposed action. A series of specific recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) were identified in the approval letter that would ensure that any impacts from the proposed action would be not significant to these species. These BMPs are also included in the attached Appendix A.

According to the National Marine Fisheries Service’s (NMFS) Marine Mammal Species Range and Critical Habitat Mapper, no Critical Habitat was mapped that would be directly affected by the proposed action. The NMFS Essential Fish Habitat Mapper determined that there are no essential fish habitats in the project area.



The proposed action would have no effect on essential fish or shellfish habitat provided that stormwater runoff is properly managed through adherence to the requirements of the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Commercial Activity – General Permit Registration and the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewater Associated with Construction Activities – General Permit Registration that will be required for the proposed action.

A report generated through the USFWS IPaC website identified that there are three (3) species potentially impacted that are listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate species in the area of the site of the proposed action. They are:

- Northern Long-eared Bat (Endangered)
- Bog Turtle (Threatened)
- Monarch Butterfly (Proposed Threatened)

Additional information for each species from the USFWS is provided below:⁴

Northern Long-eared Bat

The northern long-eared bat is a medium-sized bat about 3 to 3.7 inches in length but with a wingspan of 9 to 10 inches. As its name suggests, this bat is distinguished by its long ears, particularly as compared to other bats in its genus, *Myotis*, which are actually bats noted for their small ears (*Myotis* means mouse-eared). The northern long-eared bat is found across much of the eastern and north central United States and all Canadian provinces from the Atlantic coast west to the southern Northwest Territories and eastern British Columbia. The species' range includes 37 states. White-nose syndrome, a fungal disease known to affect bats, is currently the predominant threat to this bat, especially throughout the Northeast where the species has declined by up to 99 percent from pre-white-nose syndrome levels at many hibernation sites. Although the disease has not yet spread throughout the northern long-eared bat's entire range (white-nose syndrome is currently found in at least 25 of 37 states where the northern long-eared bat occurs), it continues to spread. Experts expect that where it spreads, it will have the same impact as seen in the Northeast.

Bog Turtle

This is the smallest emydid turtle, and one of the smallest turtles in the world. Adult carapace length is 7.9 to 11.4 cm (3.1 to 4.5 inches). The dark brown or black carapace may be marked with radiating light lines or a light blotch on the vertebral and pleural scutes. Scute annuli are usually prominent in juvenile and young adult specimens, but the carapace may be nearly smooth in old adults. The head, neck, and limbs are typically dark brown with variable reddish to yellow spots and streaks. A large reddish-orange to yellow blotch is visible behind and above each tympanum, sometimes merging into a continuous band on the neck. The upper jaw is weakly notched. (Ernst, Lovich, and Barbour, 1994; Harding, 1997) The plastron is also brown or black, but often with lighter yellow blotches towards the medial and anterior scute edges. A mature male bog turtle has a concave plastron and a long, thick tail, with the vent posterior to the rear edge of the carapace with tail extended. The female has a flat plastron and a thinner, smaller tail, with the vent at or beneath the rear carapace edge.

⁴ The three subsequent paragraphs are provided from the USFWS website at <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/ENOPU6FOIFGRXATI7MTYVUA6OE/resources>.

Monarch Butterfly

Adult monarch butterflies are large and conspicuous, with bright orange wings surrounded by a black border and covered with black veins. The black border has a double row of white spots, present on the upper side of the wings. Adult monarchs are sexually dimorphic, with males having narrower wing venation and scent patches. The bright coloring of a monarch serves as a warning to predators that eating them can be toxic.

During the breeding season, monarchs lay their eggs on their obligate milkweed host plant (primarily *Asclepias* spp.), and larvae emerge after two to five days. Larvae develop through five larval instars (intervals between molts) over a period of 9 to 18 days, feeding on milkweed and sequestering toxic chemicals (cardenolides) as a defense against predators. The larva then pupates into a chrysalis before emerging 6 to 14 days later as an adult butterfly. There are multiple generations of monarchs produced during the breeding season, with most adult butterflies living approximately two to five weeks; overwintering adults enter into reproductive diapause (suspended reproduction) and live six to nine months.

In many regions where monarchs are present, monarchs breed year-round. Individual monarchs in temperate climates, such as eastern and western North America, undergo long-distance migration, and live for an extended period of time. In the fall, in both eastern and western North America, monarchs begin migrating to their respective overwintering sites. This migration can take monarchs distances of over 3,000 km and last for over two months. In early spring (February-March), surviving monarchs break diapause and mate at the overwintering sites before dispersing. The same individuals that undertook the initial southward migration begin flying back through the breeding grounds and their offspring start the cycle of generational migration over again.

Given the very small relative size of the site area and the prior disturbance and development of the site, it is not expected that significant potential habitat for any of the three identified species of concern will occur. The IPaC report also indicates that there are no critical habitats that intersect the site of the proposed action. In addition, observation data and mapping from DEEP indicates that as of July 2023, there have been no reporting sightings of the Northern Long-eared Bat in the Town of Kent. Therefore, the impacts from the proposed action on biological resources are anticipated to be minimal and less than significant.

In addition, a formal NDDDB application was submitted as part of the preparation of this EIE, and an approval letter was obtained and is attached in Appendix A of this EIE. The NDDDB approval letter indicated that four (4) species of concern, the Wood Turtle, Red Bat, Silver-Haired Bat, and Purple Martin have been documented within the project area or in close proximity to the site of the proposed action. A series of specific recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) were identified in the approval letter

that would ensure that any impacts from the proposed action would be not significant to these species. These BMPs are also included in the attached Appendix A.

It should be noted that one of the BMPs recommended for the Purple Martin is “to benefit this species, protect wetlands including a 300ft buffer around wetlands...” While the site of the proposed action does not contain any wetlands soils or delineated wetlands, the area of disturbance for the project is located within approximately 215 feet of an area of wetland soils. However, DEEP NDDDB staff have confirmed that the recommended 300 foot buffer refers to avoidance of new site disturbance. The entire site of the proposed action has been previously disturbed by development and operations associated with the Kent Transfer Station and the Town of Kent Public Works Department, so no new site disturbance will occur as a result of the proposed action.

If the proposed impacted area is altered during design, DEEP/NDDDB program staff would be consulted for additional measures that may be necessary to provide the required protection for these species.

4.9 Hazardous and Toxic Materials and Waste

Construction activities associated with the proposed action could involve equipment that utilizes hazardous materials such as petroleum-based products. Accidental spills of such materials are always a concern during construction work. HRRRA will be responsible for ensuring that any contractors or subcontractors working on the site of the proposed action are properly maintaining construction vehicles and equipment, inclusive of any hazardous materials required for the maintenance and operation of such equipment, per applicable state and federal laws and regulations. This responsibility further extends to any disposal of hazardous waste generated as part of the construction phase and operational phase of the proposed action, and the requirement that all such materials and wastes be handled in accordance with industry-standard safety data sheets. The implementation and use of BMPs and standard operating procedures for preventing and responding to spills and contamination, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant. In addition, the operation of the in-vessel composter is not expected to generate any significant hazardous waste or toxic materials.

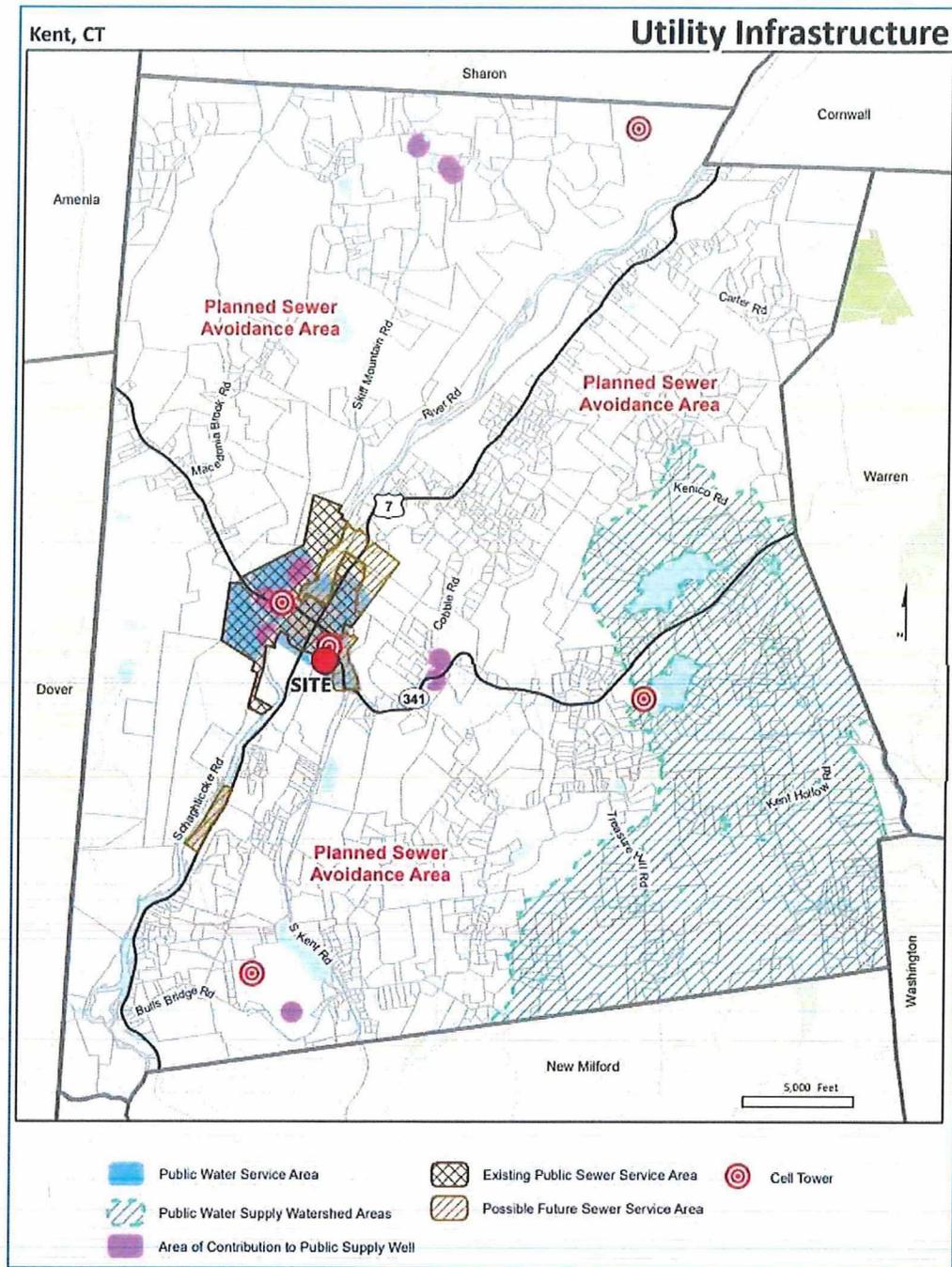
4.10 Transportation Resources

Access to the site of the proposed action is provided by way of Maple Street, also identified as State Route 341. Although the potential traffic generated by the implementation of the proposed action will be entering and exiting the site via Route 341, the proposed action is not large enough to trigger the need for review by the Office of the State Traffic Administration. According to CTDOT’s most recent traffic data for Kent from 2023, the segment of Route 341 that runs past the site of the proposed action experiences 2,500 average daily trips (ADT). Given this level of existing traffic, the relatively small size of the proposed composting facility, and the significant amount of traffic already accessing the adjacent municipal transfer station and Kent Highway

Department, impacts on the traffic levels and roadway system connecting the site of the proposed action to the regional transportation network are expected to be less than significant.



Presently, the Northwestern Connecticut Transit District (NWCTD) operates a Dial-A-Ride service for elderly (60+) and disabled residents in Kent and 13 other municipalities in the Litchfield Hills region. Given the characteristics of the proposed action, impacts to the regional mass transit system are expected to be less than significant.



4.11 Community Services and Utility Resources

The proposed action will not require new infrastructure to be constructed at, or connecting to, the site. Roads and utilities will extend from existing rights-of-way adjacent to the site. There are no projected interruptions in service to residents in the surrounding area that will occur during construction. The proposed action will not impact community services or utilities in the immediate area, with the exception of providing the infrastructure needed for citizens to divert food scraps from their household trash, reducing the amount of overall MSW produced and the cost of

disposal, and having bagged compost conveniently available for purchase. The project will not cause an increase in monthly service rates for public utilities. The proposed action will not impact recreational and park resources, nor will it impact other general local governmental functions or services. Given these findings, impacts on community services and utility resources as a result of the proposed action are expected to be less than significant.

4.12 Environmental Justice

As discussed in the Environmental Justice section of the HRRRA MMI Grant application, included herein – there are 32 Environmental Justice Block Groups in the HRRRA region according to the 2024 dataset from DEEP. These Block Groups are located in Bethel, Danbury, Kent, New Fairfield, New Milford, and Ridgefield. The two predominant drivers for the designation in these neighborhoods are having 30% or greater of the population being below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and high concentrations of limited English proficiency (LEP) minority populations living there.

The Town of Kent itself is not currently considered a “distressed municipality” by the State of Connecticut. However, the site of the proposed action is located in Census Tract 2661, Block Group 1, where 30.56% of the population is living below 200% of the federal poverty level, and as a result this block group is considered an Environmental Justice Community.

Since some components of the proposed action may meet the definition of an “Affecting Facility” as defined in section 22a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and the site of the proposed action is located within a census block group where 30% of the population is living below 200% of the federal poverty level, potential impacts on an Environmental Justice Community must be considered. The proposed action will require implementation of an approved Environmental Justice Participation Plan. Once a Public Participation Plan is issued tentative approval by DEEP, the applicant will hold an informational meeting in the community and submit a summary report on the meeting and how concerns raised at the meeting will be addressed. If requested by 25 or more people, a public hearing on the plan will be required. All DEEP bureaus and divisions such as the Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division (WEED) are not permitted to take any agency action (including taking sufficiency review of applications) for 60 days after the informational meeting.

The goal of this plan will be to seek meaningful public participation on the proposed project. As a component of the Proposed Action, HRRRA should continually engage with residents to ensure their meaningful participation by:

- providing project information and updates online, on our website and through social media platforms, with pathways for residents to ask questions and receive answers;
- providing information and resources in several languages; and

- holding public forums as necessary.

While the production and implementation of a Public Participation Plan is required, the overall impacts of the proposed action are expected to be less than significant for a number of reasons. First, the proposed in-vessel composter has a relatively small capacity for food scraps processing and therefore is unlikely to cause any untoward environmental effects in terms of air, water, soil, and biological resources. Second, the location of proposed action adjacent to the Town of Kent's current municipal transfer station provides for the consolidation of waste management infrastructure in a location most appropriate to handle impacts such as traffic, noise, and odors. Third, sensitive land uses are well-buffered from any noise or odors that might occur as a result of the proposed action. And finally, the construction of an in-vessel composter actually provides a number of environmental benefits as compared to the trucking of waste to incinerators or out-of-state landfills, including a diminution of GHG emissions from waste disposal and truck emissions.

4.13 Discussion of Committed Resources

The implementation of the proposed action will consume nonrenewable resources during the construction of the composting facility (i.e., construction supplies, fuel, etc.), which are considered irreversibly and irretrievably committed. Additionally, the irreversible and irretrievable expenditure of over \$423,000 is expected for the construction and fit-out of the proposed in-vessel composting facility. After construction, maintenance and labor resources will be required long-term to operate and maintain the facility. There will be no irreversible or irretrievable impact to wild and scenic rivers, coastal zone management, endangered species, aesthetics, traffic, noise, air quality, water quality/quantity, or the above-referenced resources.

4.14 Mitigation Measures for Potential Adverse Impacts

The following mitigation measures are recommended for implementation to address any potential adverse impacts from the establishment and operation of the proposed action, based upon the analysis conducted in this EIE:

- In order to mitigate any potential impacts from odors, effective odor control must be included in the proposed action, involving a combination of preventative and treatment measures:
 - Optimizing the Composting Process:
 - Maintaining proper carbon-to-nitrogen ratios to ensure efficient decomposition and minimize the release of nitrogen-based odors.
 - Adequate aeration to ensure aerobic conditions, preventing the accumulation of foul-smelling compounds that thrive in anaerobic environments.

- Controlling moisture levels to optimize microbial activity and prevent both excessively wet and excessively dry conditions.
 - Regulating pile temperature to maximize decomposition and minimize the volatilization of odorous compounds.
 - Feedstock Management:
 - Prompt processing of incoming feedstocks, particularly those with high odor potential, such as food waste or manure.
 - Mixing odorous materials with porous bulking agents like wood chips or leaves immediately upon arrival to promote aeration and reduce initial odor emissions.
 - Odor Treatment Technologies:
 - Biofilters: These systems use layers of porous materials (e.g., cured compost, shredded yard waste) to biologically degrade odor compounds in the exhaust air.
 - Biocovers: Applying a layer of mature compost over fresh composting piles can help adsorb and biologically degrade odors before they are released into the atmosphere.
 - Chemical Treatment: Oxidizing chemicals like hydrogen peroxide or potassium permanganate can be used to chemically neutralize odors, though careful application is needed to avoid harming beneficial microorganisms.
 - Enzymatic Catalysts and Neutralizers: These products aim to break down or mask odorous compounds, though independent research on their effectiveness varies.
 - High Carbon Wood Ash: Studies have shown that adding high carbon wood ash can significantly reduce odor emissions.
- During operation of the compost facility, there will be noise from equipment, such as from an industrial grinder and front-end loaders. Noise from vehicular traffic created by operation and maintenance of the facility, in most cases, will be incidental in relation to the existing traffic use of surrounding roadways. With the implementation of proper mitigation measures in compliance with local ordinances, the potential operational noise impacts will be less than significant.
- Compliance with the required Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and its associated BMPs, as well as with the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Commercial Activity – General Permit Registration, during the operations phase of the proposed action must occur to mitigate any potential impacts to surface water, water quality, fish and marine life, estuaries, and soil resources.
- Erosion occurring after construction prior to site stabilization may require the implementation of BMPs such as seeding or planting stabilizing vegetation after disturbance, and silt fencing.

Adverse impacts related to construction activities will be short-term and can be mitigated to a large extent by including proper control measures in all construction contract documents, and enforcing said requirements as well as any permit conditions and requirements. Control measures may include: control of dust pollution by wetting the ground surface periodically to reduce dust dispersion; requiring a traffic control plan to re-route traffic in the impacted areas to minimize traffic disruption, particularly the traffic flowing in and out of the municipal transfer station and Kent Highway Department facility; appropriate signage and traffic control personnel to route traffic in the impacted areas; and minimization of erosion through the use of hay bales and silt fences in strategic areas, such as around storm drains and the boundaries of the project site. In addition, the following mitigation measures have been identified:

- In order to mitigate any potential impacts to air quality, all construction equipment must have appropriate emission controls. Contractors working on the project must implement appropriate best management practices to reduce air quality impacts, including reducing vehicle speeds and adhering to anti-idling requirements.
- In order to mitigate any potential impacts from noise, construction activities should be limited to between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.
- In order to mitigate any potential impacts from soil erosion, excavation, and site grading, contractors must utilize erosion control BMPs such as the use or installation of sandbags, silt fences, earthen berms, fiber rolls, sediment traps, and/or erosion control blankets.
- The proposed action must include a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan with various BMPs for controlling stormwater and any potential hazardous materials spills. Compliance with the requirements and conditions of the Construction General Permit for Storm Water Discharges for Large and Small Construction Activities must occur so that storm water run-off impacts from the proposed action will be less than significant.
- In order to mitigate any potential impacts to biological resources, HRRRA and its subcontractors must utilize site design, timing of construction activities, and implementation of best management practices and standard operating procedures (SOPs) to minimize noise, traffic, and natural landscape disturbance to the greatest extent feasible.

5.0 Comments Received Pursuant to RSCA Section 22a-1a-6

On May 20, 2025 the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) published a Notice of Scoping in the Environmental Monitor to solicit comments for the proposed a Notice of Scoping for Regional Composting Facility and Recycling Infrastructure projects in Kent, CT and Ridgefield, CT. No comments were received during the public comment period.

APPENDIX A

NDDDB L1 Approval Letter and Report with BMPs



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www.ct.gov/deep

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9/29/2025

Michael Looney
Looney
79 Elm St
Hartford, CT 06106
michael.looney@ct.gov

Subject: HRRR Regional Composting Facility
Filing # 133542
NDDDB – New Determination Number: 202507195
44 Maple Street
Kent

Expiration Date: 9/29/2027

Current data maintained by the Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) and housed in the DEEP ezFile portal indicates that populations of the following State Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern species (RCA Sec. 26-306) have been documented within the project area or in close proximity to the proposed Building and Infrastructure Development (including stormwater discharge associated with construction)/New Commercial, Industrial, Governmental, HRRR Regional Composting Facility.

- Purple martin (*Progne subis*)
- Silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*)
- Red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*)
- Wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)

In accordance with the project information provided in your request submittal, implementation of the following Best Management Practices will avoid negative impacts to listed species:

Common Name	Purple martin
Scientific Name	<i>Progne subis</i>
Taxa	bird
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Purple martins return to Connecticut to select breeding sites in April. Purple Martins consume primarily dragonflies and other aerial invertebrates including moths, butterflies, flies, beetles, and wasps. Purple martins rely heavily on people to provide nesting opportunities in "martin" bird condos or "gourd" colonies. These nesting colonies are most successful if placed in open areas near a large body of water (lake or wetland), and at least 40 feet from any trees. To benefit this species, protect wetlands including a 300ft buffer around wetlands; protect food sources for this bird through protecting native plants in early successional habitats and avoiding use of chemicals that will target their prey; provide more nesting opportunities and monitor and manage the nesting colonies to exclude predators and competitors. Consult with

	the Purple Martin Conservation Association (www.purplemartin.org) for more information.
Best Management Practice	<p>To reduce the potential for collision, towers and antennas should meet USFWS guidelines with regard to height, guy wires, lighting, and maintenance:</p> <p>https://www.fws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-</p> <p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>
Common Name	Silver-haired bat
Scientific Name	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>
Taxa	mammal
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	Silver-haired bats are primarily associated with "Old Growth" forest because of their roosting requirements. They may be limited by tree cavities and small hollows. Maternity colonies have been observed to move during the breeding season, and solitary bats will move frequently through the summer season. It is estimated that these bats require snag densities of 21 per hectare to meet their needs for roosting, preferably on South and West facing slopes. Roost trees are typically larger than average in diameter, and taller than surrounding trees. Areas around roost trees should be open and uncluttered. This bat migrates south in the winter and return to Connecticut in spring to breed. During migration bats may utilize a variety of tree species and manmade structures in natural and developed areas. This species may be risk from wind development. Silver-haired, hoary, and red bats account for the majority of bat fatalities from wind turbines.
Best Management Practice	<p>The following activities will benefit bats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve natural roosting resources (safety permitting) including snags, trees with cavities, cracks or crevices, trees with exfoliating bark (e.g. shagbark hickory), coniferous trees (e.g. tamarack, hemlock, white pine) as well as preserving talus slopes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and protect summer roosts in man-made structures, such as barns • Provide artificial roost structures (i.e., bat houses) and promote their use in the surrounding community • Minimize erosion and maintaining clean and open water resources free of siltation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect native vegetation which promotes insect availability and diversity • Avoid the use of pesticides that will affect their invertebrate food source • Preserve open, edge of forest habitat corridors to allow bats to freely move among roosting, watering and foraging areas

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not remove trees between May 1- July 31 to avoid disturbing breeding bats. <p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>
Common Name	Red bat
Scientific Name	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>
Taxa	mammal
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	<p>Red bats are a migratory "tree bat" species that is found throughout Connecticut between April- October in a variety of forested habitats. They roost out in the foliage of deciduous and coniferous trees, camouflaged as dead leaves or cones. Red bats are primarily solitary roosters. They can be found roosting and feeding around forest edges and clearings. Typically, larger diameter trees (12-inch DBH and larger) are more valuable to these bats. Additionally, trees with loose, rough bark such as maples, hickories, and oaks are more desirable than other tree species due to the increased cover that the loose bark provides. Large trees with cavities are also utilized by this species. Forested areas of Connecticut's coastal towns may also serve as important migratory habitat for red bats. Numbers of bats utilizing these areas can increase dramatically as bats from other northeast locations pass through Connecticut during spring and autumn migration. This species may be at risk from wind development. Silver-haired, hoary, and red bats account for the majority of bat fatalities from wind turbines.</p>
Best Management Practice	<p style="text-align: center;">The following activities will benefit bats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve natural roosting resources (safety permitting) including snags, trees with cavities, cracks or crevices, trees with exfoliating bark (e.g. shagbark hickory), coniferous trees (e.g. tamarack, hemlock, white pine) as well as preserving talus slopes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and protect summer roosts in man-made structures, such as barns • Provide artificial roost structures (i.e., bat houses) and promote their use in the surrounding community • Minimize erosion and maintaining clean and open water resources free of siltation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect native vegetation which promotes insect availability and diversity • Avoid the use of pesticides that will affect their invertebrate food source • Preserve open, edge of forest habitat corridors to allow bats to freely move among roosting, watering and foraging areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not remove trees between May 1- July 31 to avoid disturbing breeding bats.

	<p>Avoid creating collision hazards for Birds and Bats. Glass collisions including residential windows indiscriminately kill 1 billion birds a year. Develop or renovate your building façade and site design strategy to make the building and site structures visible barriers to birds. Bat collisions are less well understood, but smooth vertical surfaces affect bats' abilities to avoid collisions.</p> <p>Limit interior and exterior night lighting. Lighting, temporary or permanent should not be directed towards suitable bat habitats. Security lighting should always be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>Take steps necessary to assure that construction is designed, built, and operated in accordance with the standards and requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System Pilot Credit #55. The USGBC releases revised versions of the LEED Building Rating System on a regular basis, and you should refer to the most current version when beginning a new building or construction project or renovation.</p> <p>Visit American Bird Conservancy website for more guidance: https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/</p>
Common Name	Wood turtle
Scientific Name	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>
Taxa	reptile
Status ¹	SC
General Ecology	<p>Individuals of this species are riverine and riparian obligates, overwintering and mating in clear, cold, primarily sand-gravel and rock bottomed streams and foraging in riparian zones, fields and upland forests during the late spring and summer. They hibernate in the banks of the river in submerged tree roots between November 1 and March 31. Their summer habitat focuses within 90m (300ft of rivers) and they regularly travel 300m (0.2 mile) from rivers during this time. During summer they seek out early successional habitat: pastures, old fields, woodlands, powerline cuts and railroad beds bordering or adjacent to streams and rivers. Their habitat in Connecticut is already severely threatened by fragmentation of riverine, instream, riparian, and upland habitats, but is exacerbated by heavy adult mortality from machinery, cars, and collection. This is compounded by the species late maturity, low reproductive potential, and high nest and hatchling depredation rates.</p>
Best Management Practice	<p>Female turtles looking for nesting habitat are frequently killed by vehicles when crossing roads. These turtles of reproductive age are the most valuable individuals in the population to maintain population persistence. Highways with high traffic are impenetrable barriers that isolate populations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culverts/Crossings: Should be avoided. When necessary it is critical that the culvert or bridge allow turtles to pass underneath (i.e. it is not perched) and the road surface and side slope will not mimic sandy nesting areas for females. • High traffic road surfaces and high traffic facilities (>100 vehicle/lane/day, 5-10 cars per hour) should use curbs and fencing to deflect animals off into wildlife underpasses or around high traffic areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low traffic road surfaces should (rate) should use Cape Cod-style curbing or no curb alternatives to allow animals to cross road unimpeded. • Cluster development to reduce the amount of roadway needed and place housing as far from high use areas as possible. • Do not use road surfaces and side slopes that will mimic sandy nesting areas for females. <p>Work with biologists to plan your development to protect (buffer) and connect critical habitat. Presence of bird seed, pet food, and garbage in and around residential areas can increase the threat of predators. Predation activity from species like raccoons and skunks can destroy the majority of this species reproductive output each year.</p>

Recreational activities may increase incidental collection and impact nesting behavior, which both contribute to local turtle population decline. Most often turtles collected are adult females traveling to and from nesting. These turtles of reproductive age are the most valuable individuals in the population to maintain population persistence. Due to slow maturity and low reproductive success, even infrequent collection poses a long-term conservation problem.

- To avoid collection by the public, do not post signs alerting the public to the presence of this species.
- Litter from recreation can pose a choking hazard. Ensure there is a plan for how garbage will be managed.
- Work with biologists to plan your recreational area so that it minimizes the effect on this species.

This species hibernates in the banks of streams and some nests are vulnerable to flooding.

- Do not dewater streams during dormant period (November 1- April 1).
- Do not alter stream volume, depth or water flow rates (i.e. there should be no sudden large water released into local streams as a temporary or permanent result of your project)
- Do not alter water quality conditions of sandy streams including turbidity, temperature, and substrate.

Any fragmentation of habitat within 300m (0.2mile) of occupied streams has been demonstrated to reduce wood turtle survival through crushing of turtles under cars or mowers, collection of turtles by public, introduced predators (raccoons, skunks, chipmunks etc) that increase with housing development. New development, increased traffic, new agricultural practice that will use motorized vehicles, new or enhance recreational trails, or other removal or fragmentation of habitat within 90m buffer of occupied streams will cause increased adult mortality.

- Where possible do not increase recreational traffic through important stream and 90m buffer habitat.

Land disturbance activities need to consider local habitat features and apply fencing and/or time of year restrictions as appropriate. We recommend you consult with a herpetologist familiar with preferred habitats to assist you with proper techniques to ensure the best protection strategies are employed for your site and the scope of your project.

- Land disturbance and excavation confined to the upland can be done without risk for impact to wood turtle if work is restricted to the dormant season (November 1- March 31).

If land disturbance activity will include significant areas within and around rivers and streams, you will need to take precautions to avoid impacting hibernating adults. Consult with a qualified herpetologist to assess your work impact zone for the potential to impact overwintering wood turtle.

- Do not begin instream activity and bank disturbance in suitable overwintering habitat within a river or stream during the turtle's dormant period (November 1- March 31).

To prevent turtle access and entry into your upland work zone between April 1- October 31:

- Exclusionary practices will be required to prevent any turtle access into construction areas. These measures will need to be installed at the limits of

	<p style="text-align: center;">disturbance as shown on the plans, or be specifically designated by a qualified herpetologist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusionary fencing be at least 20 inches tall and must be secured to and remain in contact with the ground and be regularly maintained (at least bi-weekly and after major weather events) to secure any gaps or openings at ground level that may let animal pass through. • Prior to construction, all turtles occurring within fencing work area will be relocated to suitable habitat outside disturbance area. This should be performed by a qualified professional familiar with habitat requirements and behavior of the species. • The Contractor must search the work area each morning prior to any work being done. • All construction personnel working within the turtle habitat must be apprised of the species description and the possible presence of a listed species. • Any turtles encountered within the immediate work area shall be carefully moved to an adjacent area outside of the excluded area and fencing should be inspected to identify and remove access point. These animals are protected by law and no turtles should be relocated from the site. • In areas where silt fence is used for exclusion, it shall be removed as soon as the area is stable to allow for reptile and amphibian passage to resume. • Special precautions must be taken to avoid degradation of wetland habitats including any wet meadows and seasonal pools. <p style="text-align: center;">If land disturbance will occur in potential nesting areas designated by a qualified herpetologist, you will need to take precautions to prevent female turtles from entering work area and setting up nests. This fencing would need to be in place before May 15. Potential nesting areas may include open fields, early successional habitat, sandy open patches nearby wetland features, and sandy roads and roadsides.</p>
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¹E = State Endangered, T = State Threatened, SC = State Special Concern, FE = Federally Endangered, FT = Federally Threatened, NA = Not applicable.

Your submission information indicates that your project requires a state permit, license, registration, or authorization, or utilizes state funding or involves state agency action. This NDDDB – New determination may be utilized to fulfill the Endangered and Threatened Species requirements for state-issued permit applications, licenses, registration submissions, and authorizations.

Please be aware of the following limitations and conditions:

Natural Diversity Database information includes all information regarding listed species available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Natural History Survey and cooperating units of DEEP, land owners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Database and accessed through the ezFile portal as it becomes available. New information may result in additional review, and new or modified restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits.

- During your work listed species may be encountered on site. A report must be submitted by the observer to the Natural Diversity Database promptly and additional review and restrictions or conditions may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. Please fill out the [appropriate survey form](#) and follow the instructions for submittal.
- Your project involves the state permit application process or other state involvement, including state funding or state agency actions; please note that consultations with your permit analyst or the agency may result in modifications or additional requirements. In this situation, additional evaluation of the proposal by the DEEP Wildlife Division may be necessary and additional information, including but not limited to species-specific site surveys, may be required.
- If your project involves preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment, this NDDDB consultation and determination should not be substituted for conducting biological field surveys assessing on-site habitat and species presence.
- This determination applies only to the project as described in the submission and summarized at the end of this letter. Please re-submit an updated Request for Review if the project's scope of work and/or timeframe changes, including if work has not begun by 9/29/2027.
- If biological surveys have been conducted in accordance with Best Management Practices provided, please forward a copy of the results to the address listed at the end of this letter. Include the Project Name and Determination Number on all correspondence.

The NDDDB – New determination for the HRRR Regional Composting Facility at 44 Maple Street, Kent, as described in the submitted information and summarized at the end of this document is valid until 9/29/2027. This determination applies only to the project as described in the submission and summarized at the end of this letter. Please re-submit an updated Request for Review if the project's scope of work and/or timeframe changes, including if work has not begun by 9/29/2027.

This letter is computer generated and carries no signature. If however, any clarification is needed, or, if you have further questions, please contact the following:

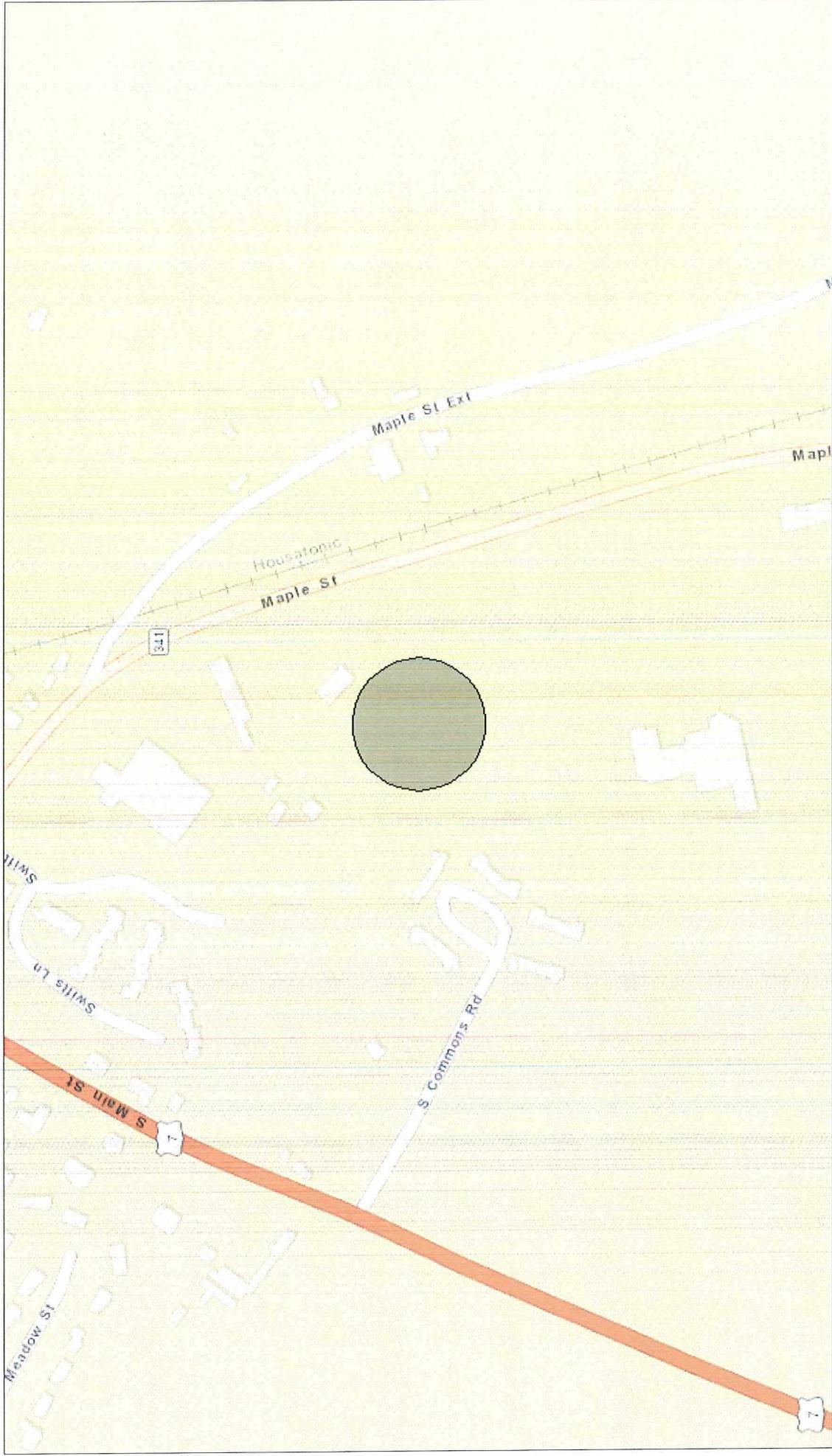
CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division
Natural Diversity Database, 6th floor
79 Elm Street,
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
(860) 424-3011
deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov

Please reference the Determination Number provided in this letter when you e-mail or write. Thank you for submitting your project through DEEP's ezFile portal for Natural Diversity Database reviews.

Application Details:

Project involves federal funds or federal permit:	No
Project involves state funds, state agency action, or relates to CEPA request:	Yes
Project requires state permit, license, registration, or authorization:	Yes
DEEP enforcement action related to project:	
Project Type:	Building and Infrastructure Development (including stormwater discharge associate with construction)
Project Sub-type:	New Commercial, Industrial, Governmental
Project Name:	HRRA Regional Composting Facility
Project Description:	

HRRRA Regional Composting Facility Map



September 24, 2025