

September 5, 2024

Ms. Jueda Shytco
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Notice of Scoping for Town of Vernon Exit 67 Sanitary Sewer Extension

Dear Ms. Shytco,

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) has reviewed the Notice of Scoping for the proposed Vernon Exit 67 Sanitary Sewer Extension and submits the following comments:

Vernon's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) identifies the Exit 67 Interchange as an area for development on several occasions. Throughout the POCD there are mentions of leveraging this land to *better support the manufacturing sector* and that the vacant land within this area *provides the greatest opportunity for commercial and industrial expansion*. The POCD further elaborated that the Interchange 67 Node is one that is designated for a *mixture of high density residential, commercial, and industrial development*.

We understand that sewer expansion aids in cultivating more development in an area. OPM recommends that Vernon ensures that ratepayers are not further burdened by new sewer infrastructure and operating costs by encouraging a dense development pattern - whether industrial or mixed use - in the newly served area.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this scoping notice and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Dahl
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capitol Ave, MS #54 ORG
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 418-6412
rebecca.dahl@ct.gov

450 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: 860-418-6355



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