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To: Municipal Chief Executive Officials

WPCA Chairmen and Boards

Chief Operators of Wastewater Treatment Plants

Date: April 27, 2021

Re: Electronic Sewer Bypass Reporting

<u>Background:</u> CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is currently working on upgrading the existing sewer bypass reporting system. The current system used by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) doesn't meet public information needs and also requires an update to meet new state and federal requirements.

To meet EPA's **Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule** (CROMMER) requirements, DEEP will require a subscriber agreement specifically related to e-reporting for sewage discharges. The Subscriber agreement must identify the Signatory Authority, and if applicable, each Subscriber (an individual(s) duly authorized to submit Electronic Filings by the Signatory Authority) who will be responsible for entering information into the system.

- On May 2, 2012, Public Act No. 12-11 "An Act Concerning the Public's Right to Know of A Sewage Spill" was signed into law by Governor Malloy.
- On July 15, 2013, Acting Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Bob Perciasepe signed the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Electronic Reporting Rule for publication in the Federal Register on July 30, 2013.
- ❖ On June 7, 2018, Public Act No. 18-97 "An Act Concerning the Sewage Spill Right-to-Know Act and Expanding Continuing Education Programs for Wastewater Operators" was signed into law by Governor Malloy.
- Currently, S.B. No. 927 has passed the Senate and is on the House calendar. The current version of the bill (attached) includes, but isn't limited to, revisions for reporting sewer bypasses and overflows to downstream effected communities and a requirement for DEEP's establishment of a real-time public notification system.

<u>Updating Electronic Sewer Bypass Reporting:</u> DEEP has chosen a new vendor to configure a system for electronic reporting of sewage bypasses. The new system will comply with the second phase of the EPA eReporting-Rule, be webbased, and able to notify all applicable government entities (i.e., DEEP, DPH, DoAg, EPA) of a sewage bypass.

Please complete the attached Subscriber Agreement and <u>submit it to DEEP on or before July 1, 2021</u>. We thank you for continuing to work with us as we update our bypass notification reporting system.

Sincerely.

Jennifer L. Perry, P.E., Director

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Water Planning and Management Division Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse