



State of Connecticut

Environmental Review Checklist

Last Updated 02/25/2020

Instructions for Use:

The Environmental Review Checklist (ERC), as defined in Sec. 22a-1a-1(9) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA), is intended to assist state agencies in (1) determining whether a proposed action or category of actions requires public scoping, or (2) in recording an agency's initial assessment of the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of a proposed action at the completion of public scoping.

For the purposes of CEPA, an Action is defined in Sec 22a-1a-1(2) of the RCSA as an individual activity or a sequence of planned activities initiated or proposed to be undertaken by an agency or agencies, or funded in whole or in part by the state.

Completion of the ERC is only *required* as part of a sponsoring agency's post-scoping notice in which the agency has determined that it will not be preparing an EIE (Sec. 22a-1a-7(d) of the RCSA).

In all other instances, the sponsoring agency has the option to use this form or portions of it, in conjunction with the applicable Environmental Classification Document (ECD), as a tool to assist it in determining whether or not scoping is required and to document the agency's review. This can be especially useful for an agency administering a proposed action that is not specifically represented in the ECD or which may have additional factors and/or indirect or cumulative impacts requiring further consideration.

Even if an agency ultimately determines that public scoping is not necessary, as a matter of public record OPM highly recommends that the agency internally document its decision, and its justification.

In completing this form, include descriptions that are clear, concise, and understandable to the general public.

Note that prior to reviewing a proposed action under the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA), Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), Section 16a-31 requires agencies to review any proposed actions for the acquisition, development or improvement of real properties, or the acquisition of public transportation equipment or facilities, and in excess of \$200,000, for consistency with the policies of the State Plan of Conservation and Development (State C&D Plan).



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PART I – Initial Review and Determination

Date: September 7, 2023
Name of Project/Action: Pleasant View Water Main Interconnection Project
Project Addresses: Prospect Hill Road (CT RTE 67), Legion Road, Dorwin Hill Road and Pleasant View Road
Affected Municipalities: New Milford
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Public Health (DPH)
Agency Project Number, if applicable: N/A
Project Funding Source/Program, if known: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

Identify the Environmental Classification Document (ECD) being used in this review:

Generic, or Agency-Specific

An environmental assessment or environmental impact statement is being prepared pursuant to NEPA, and shall be circulated in accordance with CEPA requirements.

The proposed action requires a written review by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and/or Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office (NATHPO). Include SHPO/NATHPO reviews as an attachment, or indicate the status of those reviews: *Indicate status of SHPO and/or NATHPO review.*

Based on the analysis documented in this Environmental Review Checklist (ERC), and in consideration of public comments, this agency has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for the proposed action is not warranted. Publication of this document to the Environmental Monitor shall satisfy the agency's responsibilities under [Section 22a-1a-7 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#) (RCSA).

Completed by: Eric McPhee, Supervising Environmental Analyst, Source Assessment and Protection Unit, DPH DWS

Note that prior to commencing a CEPA review, Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 16a-31 requires state agencies to review certain actions for their consistency with the policies of the State Plan of Conservation and Development (State C&D Plan). Completion of this ERC assumes the agency has determined this proposed action to be consistent with the State C&D Plan.

PART II – Detailed Project Information

Description of the Purpose & Need of the Proposed Action:

Aquarion Water Company (Aquarion) proposes to construct a water main interconnection that will connect the Aquarion New Milford Regional System (PWSID CT0960011) to the Aquarion Pleasant View System (PWSID CT0960301). By completing the interconnection between the two systems, it will eliminate existing water quality concerns, increase capacity, improve reliability and ensure an adequate margin of safety for the Pleasant View water system.

Description of the Proposed Action:

This work will entail installation of approximately 4,260 feet of new water main on Prospect Hill Road, from Prospect Place to Dorwin Hill Road, 150 feet of new water main on Legion Rd. from Prospect Hill Road to the new pump station, 4,425 feet of new water main on Dorwin Hill Road from Prospect Hill Road to Pleasant View Road and approximately 70 feet of new water main on Pleasant View Road.

Alternatives Considered:

Three (3) alternative routes to establish interconnection between the systems were taken into consideration during the engineering assessment. These would require between 6,400 and 8,750 feet (ft) of pipe length and cost between \$4.2 and \$5.5 million dollars. The lowest cost alternative would result in approximately 400 ft of tree clearing and water main installation under a “paper” (never completed) road.

Public concerns or controversy associated with the proposed action:

DPH received comments from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) on July 12, 2023. DPH did not find DEEP’s comments or recommendations, which are assessed in Part IV, to be of concern or controversy.

PART III – Site Characteristics (Check all that apply)

The proposed action is non-site specific, or encompasses multiple sites;

Current site ownership:

N/A, State; Municipal, Private,
 Other: Please Explain.

Anticipated ownership upon project completion:

N/A, State; Municipal, Private,
 Other: Please Explain.

Locational Guide Map Criteria:

<http://ctmaps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ba47efccdb304e02893b7b8e8cff556a>

Priority Funding Area factors:

- Designated as a Priority Funding Area, including Balanced, or Village PFA;
- Urban Area or Urban Cluster, as designated by the most recent US Census Data;
- Public Transit, defined as being within a ½ mile buffer surrounding existing or planned mass transit;
- Existing or planned sewer service from an adopted Wastewater Facility Plan;
- Existing or planned water service from an adopted Public Drinking Water Supply Plan;
- Existing local bus service provided 7 days a week.

Conservation Area factors:

- Core Forest Area(s), defined as greater than 250 acres based on the 2006 Land Cover Dataset;
- Existing or potential drinking water supply watershed(s);
- Aquifer Protection Area(s);
- Wetland Soils greater than 25 acres;
- Undeveloped Prime, Statewide Important and/or locally important agricultural soils greater than 25 acres;
- Category 1, 2, or 3 Hurricane Inundation Zone(s);
- 100 year Flood Zone(s);
- Critical Habitat;
- Locally Important Conservation Area(s),
- Protected Land (list type):
 - Local, State, or National Historic District(s).
 - Local, State, or National Historic District(s).

PART IV - Assessment of Environmental Significance – Direct, Indirect, And Cumulative Effects

Required Factors for Consideration (Section 22a-1a-3 of the RCSA)	Agency’s Assessment and Explanation
Effect on water quality, including surface water and groundwater;	The project is not expected to have any adverse effects on surface or groundwater.
Effect on a public water supply system;	<p>Based on the wellfield available water, the Pleasant View System has had an adequate margin of safety (MOS) over the past five years, except compared to 2020 maximum day demands (MOS = 1.06). The Meadowbrook System, which receives supply from Pleasant View, has a more significant maximum day supply deficit with MOS less than 1.0 the past four years. In total, it is estimated that the combined systems require an additional supply of 0.035 – 0.050 mgd.</p> <p>The New Milford Regional System has an adequate excess supply capacity to meet the additional demand of these systems without detrimental impact to existing customers.</p>
Effect on flooding, in-stream flows, erosion or sedimentation;	The project area of disturbance is less than one acre, with the majority of the project taking place under existing roadways. The project is not expected to have adverse effects on flooding, in-stream flows, erosion or sedimentation.
Disruption or alteration of an historic, archeological, cultural, or recreational building, object, district, site or its surroundings; A. Alteration of an historic building, district, structure, object, or its setting; OR B. Disruption of an archeological or sacred site;	The project is not expected to cause negative impacts as no sites were identified.
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;	<p>The Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) is a record of state or federal listed species maintained by the Wildlife Division that may be found in the project area. In a letter dated July 12th, 2023, DEEP found that the project is not in an NDDDB area.</p> <p>In addition, the Fisheries Division at DEEP provided best management practices, proper erosion and sediment controls throughout the duration of the project and while extending the water main across the Town Farm Brook.</p>

	In a letter of response dated September 1, 2023, Aquarion addressed this issue by clarifying that the disturbances will be limited to 7 feet above the stream crossing culvert.
Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment;	The project is not expected to cause adverse effects.
Substantial aesthetic or visual effects;	The project is not expected to cause adverse effects.
Inconsistency with: (A) the policies of the State C&D Plan, developed in accordance with section 16a-30 of the CGS; (B) other relevant state agency plans; and (C) applicable regional or municipal land use plans;	The project is consistent with the State of Connecticut's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) including Growth Management Principles (GMP): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.14: "Support the introduction or expansion of public water and/or sewer services or alternative on-site wastewater treatment systems only when there is a demonstrated environmental, public health, public safety, economic, social, or general welfare concern" – Id. 16 • 5.1: "Utilize a multiple barrier approach to ensure the availability of safe and adequate public water supplies that meet or exceed state and federal drinking water standards" – Id. 17 • 6.3 "Support the creation of objective and uniform protocols for public water" – Id. 21
Disruption or division of an established community or inconsistency with adopted municipal and regional plans, including impacts on existing housing where sections 22a- 1b(c) and 8-37t of the CGS require additional analysis;	The project is not expected to disrupt communities or housing.
Displacement or addition of substantial numbers of people;	The project is not expected to displace any people.
Substantial increase in congestion (traffic, recreational, other);	The project is not expected to cause any increase in congestion.
A substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of the action;	The project is not expected to significantly increase energy use.

The creation of a hazard to human health or safety;	The project is not expected to create a hazard to human health and safety. On the contrary, upon completion the project will provide a safe and adequate water supply to customers currently served by the Pleasant View System.
Effect on air quality;	The project is not expected to affect air quality.
Effect on ambient noise levels;	The project is not expected to affect ambient noise levels.
Effect on existing land resources and landscapes, including coastal and inland wetlands;	The project is not expected to affect land resources, landscapes, coastal or inland wetlands.
Effect on agricultural resources;	The project is not expected to affect agricultural resources.
Adequacy of existing or proposed utilities and infrastructure;	The project will establish new public water supply source for the Pleasant View customers.
Effect on greenhouse gas emissions as a direct or indirect result of the action;	The project is not expected to create greenhouse gas emissions.
Effect of a changing climate on the action, including any resiliency measures incorporated into the action;	The project is intended to increase resiliency by creating redundancy in water supply to those served by the Pleasant View system.
Any other substantial effects on natural, cultural, recreational, or scenic resources.	The project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Cumulative effects.	The cumulative impacts of the project are not expected to be significant.

PART V - List of Required Permits, Approvals and/or Certifications Identified at the Time of this Review

Possible Permits include: General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities (DEEP-WPED-GP-015); 401 Water Quality Certification; Comprehensive General Permit for Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater.

Pursuant to [19-13-B102\(d\)](#). Final plans and specifications will be submitted to DPH for approval.

PART VI – Sponsoring Agency Comments and Recommendations

Based on DPH’s review of the proposed project and related documents provided, the project is not one that may significantly affect the environment, and therefore, an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) is not required under CEPA.

PART VII - Public Comments and Sponsoring Agency Responses:

Based on DPH’s environmental assessment of the proposed project, which includes a review of the comments provided by DEEP dated July 12, 2023, DPH has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA. DPH will coordinate with Aquarion Water Company to ensure that the recommendations by DEEP are implemented.