

**To:** JaCinta Frazier, Department of Housing

505 Hudson Street, Hartford CT 06106

**From:** Linda Brunza- Environmental Analyst

**Telephone:** 860-424-3739

**Date:** 8/11/2021

**Email:** [Linda.Brunza@ct.gov](mailto:Linda.Brunza@ct.gov)

**Subject:** Deming Road, Multifamily Housing, Berlin

Staff at DEEP has reviewed the scoping notice for the proposed residential development which includes 20% affordable housing and 80% market rate housing, a clubhouse, outdoor recreational area, and parking. The location is 823, 833 Deming Road, Berlin.

The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

### **Wildlife Division**

DEEP's Wildlife Division confirmed that the site is within a Natural Diversity Database Area. In the NDDDB Determination letter dated June 17, 2020, the main concern is for the Eastern box turtle and the Wildlife Division agreed to the protection measures provided by the applicant. An additional review by DEEP Fisheries determined there were no concerns with fish that may occur in Cold Spring Brook (Little Brook) or the Mattabeset River. If you have any questions please contact Karen Zyko at 860-424-3378 or [deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov](mailto:deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov).

### **Air Management**

DEEP Bureau of Air Management typically recommends the use of newer off-road construction equipment that meets the latest EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) standards. If newer equipment cannot be used, equipment with the best available controls on diesel emissions including retrofitting with diesel oxidation catalysts or particulate filters in addition to the use of ultra-low sulfur fuel would be the second choice that can be effective in reducing exhaust emissions. The use of newer equipment that meets EPA standards would obviate the need for retrofits.

DEEP also recommends the use of newer on-road vehicles that meet either the latest EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) standards for construction projects. These on-road vehicles include dump trucks, fuel delivery trucks and other vehicles typically found at construction sites. On-road vehicles older than the 2007-model year typically should be retrofitted with diesel oxidation catalysts or diesel particulate filters for projects. Again, the use of newer vehicles that meet EPA standards would eliminate the need for retrofits.

Additionally, Section 22a-174-18(b)(3)(C) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) limits the idling of mobile sources to 3 minutes. This regulation applies to most vehicles

such as trucks and other diesel engine-powered vehicles commonly used on construction sites. Adhering to the regulation will reduce unnecessary idling at truck staging zones, delivery or truck dumping areas and further reduce on-road and construction equipment emissions. Use of posted signs indicating the three-minute idling limit is recommended. It should be noted that only DEEP can enforce Section 22a-174-18(b)(3)(C) of the RCSA. Therefore, it is recommended that the project sponsor include language similar to the anti-idling regulations in the contract specifications for construction in order to allow them to enforce idling restrictions at the project site without the involvement of DEEP.

### **Stormwater During Construction**

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, are subject to the requirements of the *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEEP-WPED-GP-015). For locally exempt projects disturbing one or more acres, a registration describing the site and the construction activity must be submitted to DEEP prior to the initiation of construction within timeframes specified in the general permit. A stormwater pollution control plan, including measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management, must be prepared. A goal of eighty (80) percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing post-construction stormwater management measures. The general permit also requires that post-construction control measures incorporate runoff reduction practices, such as LID techniques, to meet performance standards specified in the permit. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3025. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: [Construction Stormwater GP](#).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. These comments are based on the reviews provided by relevant staff and offices within DEEP during the designated comment period. They may not represent all applicable programs within DEEP. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning these comments.

cc: Robert Hannon