89-5

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

press release

June 6, 1989

P R E S S R E L E A S E

On April 24, 1989, Ethics Commission Staff Attorney Rachel S. Rubin filed a complaint (Docket Number 89-5) against Ms. Jennifer Peplinski Stevens, a former employee of the Department of Environmental Protection. The Complaint alleged that Ms. Stevens had violated the revolving door provisions of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials. A copy of the Complaint is attached.

On June 5, 1989 the Ethics Commission and the Respondent settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order. A copy of the agreement is attached. As part of the Stipulation, Ms. Stevens has agreed to pay a civil penalty of $1,000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL:

Rachel S. Rubin, Esq.
State Ethics Commission
566-4472

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

C O N F I D E N T I A L

DOCKET NUMBER 89-5	)	STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF A	)	97 ELM STREET (REAR)
COMPLAINT AGAINST	)	HARTFORD, CONN. 06106
MS. JENNIFER PEPLINSKI STEVENS	)	APRIL 24, 1989

STIPULATION

1. The Commission finds that the Respondent violated Chapter 10, Part I, General Statutes as alleged in the attached complaint.

2. The Respondent admits she unknowingly violated Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-84b(a) and (b) of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials. Respondent was employed by the Department of Environmental Protection for nine months in the position of engineer intern. Upon receipt of the complaint notification, the Respondent states she has complied with the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

3. The Respondent waives any rights she may have under Sections 1-82 and 1-82a, General Statutes, including the right to a hearing in this case; and agrees with the Commission to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by subsection 4-177(d), General Statutes.

WHEREFORE, the State Ethics Commission enters, and Ms. Jennifer Peplinski Stevens agrees to, these orders: In lieu of any other action it is authorized to take with respect to this matter, the Commission orders the Respondent to (1) pay a civil penalty of $1,000 within thirty days; (2) cease and desist from representing any private employer before the Department of

Environmental Protection until after October 28, 1989; (3) cease and desist representing Stanley-Bostitch with respect to the contingency plan as referenced in paragraphs F and G of Order No. HM-374 dated November 4, 1986; and (4) henceforth, comply with the requirements of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84b of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

Jennifer Stevens
Respondent

5/30/89
Dated

William A Elmer
Chairperson
State Ethics Commission

6/5/89
Dated

CONNECTICUT STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
97 ELM STREET (REAR)
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
TELEPHONE NUMBER 566-4472

COMPLAINT

THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION ISSUES A COMPLAINT ALLEGING A VIOLATION OF:

____XX____ THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND STATE EMPLOYEES, CHAPTER 10, PART I, GENERAL STATUTES

_____ THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR LOBBYISTS, CHAPTER 10, PART II, GENERAL STATUTES

TIME AND DATE MATTERS COMPLAINED OF OCCURRED:

On or about October 28, 1988 through the present

PLACE VIOLATION OCCURRED:

Hartford, Connecticut; New Britain, Connecticut; and Clinton, Connecticut

PERSONS INVOLVED:

Jennifer Peplinski Stevens, former employee of the Department of Environmental Protection

WITNESSES:

Past and present employees of the Department of Environmental Protection

CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH INDICATE THAT THE CODE OF ETHICS DESIGNATED ABOVE WAS VIOLATED ARE AS FOLLOWS (A SHORT, PLAIN STATEMENT ALLEGING A VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 10, GENERAL STATUTES):

(see attached)

(OVER)

Rachel S. Rubin
SIGNATURE

April 24, 1989
DATE

COMPLAINANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS: STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
97 FLM STREET (REAR)
HARTFORD, CT 06106

COMPLAINANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: 566-4472

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It is hereby alleged that:

1. Ms. Stevens (hereinafter the "Respondent") was from January 15, 1988 until October 28, 1988 an employee of the Department of Environmental Protection (hereinafter referred to as "DEP").

2. By virtue of the Respondent's position, she was a "state employee" as defined by Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-79(m) and subject to the Code of Ethics for Public Officials, (Chapter 10, Part I, General Statutes), including the post-employment restrictions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84b.

3. On or about October 31, 1988, the Respondent began employment with The Stanley Works Company (hereinafter referred to as "Company") as an Environmental Specialist.

4. On or about March 16, 1989, the Respondent represented the Company at a meeting with DEP employees to discuss, among other things, outstanding pollution abatement orders and inspection reports.

5. The Respondent has contacted DEP several times by telephone to determine the status of Company permit applications and to follow-up on other reports and orders.

6. The Respondent has written to DEP several times on behalf of the Company to explain and/or provide information about various environmental issues, including but not limited to, engineering reports, waste treatment operating records, and various inspection reports.

7. Each of the activities alleged in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 above are violations of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84b(b) which prohibits a state employee, for one year after leaving state service, from representing anyone, other than the State, for compensation before the agency in which he served at the time of his termination of service, concerning any matter in which the State has a substantial interest.

8. The Respondent participated personally and substantially while in state service on one of the Company's hazardous waste contingency plans.

9. The Respondent, while in the employ of the Company, has continued to work on the contingency plan described in paragraph 8 above.

10. The activities alleged in paragraphs 8 and 9 above are in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84b(a) which prohibits a state employee from representing anyone other than the State, concerning any particular matter in which he participated personally and substantially and in which the State has a substantial interest.