

# State Water Plan Annual Report Form

The Water Planning Council's (WPC) State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup (IWG) is preparing a report for the WPC to approve and submit to the legislature in early January. This report will cover progress made on plan implementation and summarize work undertaken by the WPC, the IWG, and WPC Advisory Group since adoption of the plan by the General Assembly in June 2019. Preparation of the report is being undertaken in accordance with Public Act 16-137, which established this requirement for the State Water Plan.

The IWG needs help in compiling the information from the WPCAG, IWG, and sub-groups that have played a role in the implementation of the State Water Plan. As a leader of one of these groups, please complete the following and **return it by November 21, 2022**, to the IWG's co-chair, Dave Radka, at [davidradka450@gmail.com](mailto:davidradka450@gmail.com). All questions may also be directed to Dave.

## 1. Name and contact info for person completing report:

<b>Name:</b>	Karen Burnaska and Margaret Miner
<b>Role:</b>	WPCAG Watershed Lands Co-Chairs
<b>Email:</b>	karenb01@earthlink.net
<b>Phone:</b>	

## 2. Workgroup or Initiative Information

<b>Title of Group or Initiative:</b>	Protection of Class I&II like lands not owned by water companies
<b>Is this group ongoing (no end date)?</b>	Yes (skip to question 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity Status:</b>	Active <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date started:</b>	
<b>Date completed:</b>	

## 3. Provide Charge or Focus of Group or Initiative (2-3 sentences – be brief)

Review and determine the adequacy of current statutory/regulatory provisions to protect public water supplies and maintain Class I and II lands, as well as comparable lands that are not owned by water companies.

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<b>4. Use the drop-down menu to indicate how the work aligns with or otherwise supports State Water Plan requirements. (Select up to 3)</b>	
1.	(6) Recommend land use and other measures, including an assessment of land acquisition or land protection needs, where appropriate to ensure the desired quality and abundance of Recommend land use and other measures, including an assessment of land acquisition
2.	Choose an item.
3.	Choose an item.

### 5. Workgroup or Initiative Activity (answer ONE of the following questions):

<b>5a) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>completed</u>, in bulleted format, list the final recommendations:</b>

<b>5b) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>active</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>

<b>5c) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>ongoing</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>
This initiative of the WLWG has spurred many more specific initiatives such as solar siting and land conveyance. This is a central and ongoing initiative of the WLWG and the group will continue to identify areas for process, policy and statutory improvements to protect class I&II like lands.

<b>6. What stakeholder interests were represented and/or invited to the workgroup or initiative? (Do not include names):</b>
Business, water utilities, environmental, regional planners, DPH, DEEP and OPM representatives.

<b>7. Provide links to complete reports or documents below or attach as pdf to this form</b>

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<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

## 2. Workgroup or Initiative Information

<b>Title of Group or Initiative:</b>	State Land Conveyance and Water Resource Protection
<b>Is this group ongoing (no end date)?</b>	Yes (skip to question 3) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity Status:</b>	Active <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date started:</b>	May 2020
<b>Date completed:</b>	Sept 2020

## 3. Provide Charge or Focus of Group or Initiative (2-3 sentences – be brief)

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2.	(3) Recommend the utilization of the state's water resources, including surface and subsurface water, in a manner that balances public water supply, economic development, recreation and ecological health
3.	Choose an item.

### 5. Workgroup or Initiative Activity (answer ONE of the following questions):

<b>5a) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>completed</u>, in bulleted format, list the final recommendations:</b>

<b>5b) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>active</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>

<b>5c) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>ongoing</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>

<b>6. What stakeholder interests were represented and/or invited to the workgroup or initiative? (Do not include names):</b>
Business, water utilities, environmental, regional planners, DPH, DEEP and OPM representatives.

<b>7. Provide links to complete reports or documents below or attach as pdf to this form</b>
<a href="https://egov.ct.gov/PMC/Agenda/DownloadHistory/1133">https://egov.ct.gov/PMC/Agenda/DownloadHistory/1133</a>

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<b>Email:</b>	karenb01@earthlink.net
<b>Phone:</b>	

## 2. Workgroup or Initiative Information

<b>Title of Group or Initiative:</b>	State Land Conveyance and Water Resource Protection Phase II
<b>Is this group ongoing (no end date)?</b>	Yes (skip to question 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity Status:</b>	Active <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date started:</b>	
<b>Date completed:</b>	

## 3. Provide Charge or Focus of Group or Initiative (2-3 sentences – be brief)

To ensure that important information about high quality water resources on land to be conveyed are disclosed to legislators in the legislative land conveyance process.

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3.	Choose an item.

### 5. Workgroup or Initiative Activity (answer ONE of the following questions):

<b>5a) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>completed</u>, in bulleted format, list the final recommendations:</b>

<b>5b) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>active</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>

<b>5c) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>ongoing</u>, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):</b>
The WLWG will continue to monitor the land conveyance process in the legislature to ensure that information about water resources are made available in the land conveyance process.

<b>6. What stakeholder interests were represented and/or invited to the workgroup or initiative? (Do not include names):</b>
Business, water utilities, environmental, regional planners, DPH, DEEP and OPM representatives.

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## 2. Workgroup or Initiative Information

<b>Title of Group or Initiative:</b>	SITING OF RENEWABLE-ENERGY PROJECTS ON SOURCE-WATER LANDS PRIMARY FOCUS: SOLAR FACILITIES
<b>Is this group ongoing (no end date)?</b>	Yes (skip to question 3) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Activity Status:</b>	Active <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date started:</b>	October 2020
<b>Date completed:</b>	March 2021

## 3. Provide Charge or Focus of Group or Initiative (2-3 sentences – be brief)

To develop recommendations to prevent or minimize impacts on water resources caused by larger, commercial solar installations on Class I and Class II-like lands

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3.	Choose an item.

### 5. Workgroup or Initiative Activity (answer ONE of the following questions):

<b>5a) If your workgroup or initiative is <u>completed</u>, in bulleted format, list the final recommendations:</b>
Update current laws, building on work from the past three decades
Consider areas that protect our drinking water quality as unique and irreplaceable
Develop a document/plan that contains policies for all of the state's water resources
More consistent messaging to local land use boards on the importance of protecting drinking water watershed land
Establish state policies that recognize the critical importance of forest preservation to the protection of public water supplies. Forestlands are considered to be the most beneficial watershed land cover protecting drinking water sources, as noted by the American Water Works Association, the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities, and US Forest Service National Forest to Faucets partnership.
Consider adding DPH review along with DEEP and DoAg to PA17-218 for CSC renewable energy project petitions within public water supply watersheds and Aquifer Protection Areas, applying the Class I and II permitting standard of no significant impact to the purity and adequacy of the public water supply.
Promote renewable energy development to offset power demands of water and wastewater facilities.
Solar applications to the CSC should also be sent to the pertinent water company. This can be done by including the requirement in the CSC guidelines.
Involve the public earlier and more effectively in the approval process



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The Water Planning Council should consider reviewing and commenting on the [2020 Draft Integrated Resources Plan](#) with source water protection in mind. (Comments are due February 15<sup>th</sup>.)

At BOTH the project selection and siting council application stages, the applicant should be required to indicate if the project is located on drinking water watershed source protection or aquifer protection land. This would not be burden on the applicant with the development of the [Public Water Supply map](#) on DPH's website.

**5b) If your workgroup or initiative is active, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):**

**5c) If your workgroup or initiative is ongoing, in bulleted format, list accomplishments, metrics of success, and expectations for the coming year(s):**

**6. What stakeholder interests were represented and/or invited to the workgroup or initiative? (Do not include names):**

Business and solar industry, water utilities, environmental, regional planners, DPH, DEEP and OPM representatives.

**7. Provide links to complete reports or documents below or attach as pdf to this form**

[file:///C:/Users/river/Downloads/2020-01-18 Final Draft WPCAG Green Energy Project Siting%20\(8\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/river/Downloads/2020-01-18%20Final%20Draft%20WPCAG%20Green%20Energy%20Project%20Siting%20(8).pdf)

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<b>Activity Status:</b>	Active <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date started:</b>	July 2019
<b>Date completed:</b>	

## 3. Provide Charge or Focus of Group or Initiative (2-3 sentences – be brief)

To understand DPH's criteria and decision making process used by DPH for siting solar facilities on Class I and II lands.

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DPH provided a review of enabling statutory language and referenced several approved projects. DPH's general statement was that it does not permit activities that would harm the purity or adequacy of the public water supply. DPH does not have a separate list of criteria for green energy projects.

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