



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: May 19, 2022
Name of Project/Action: Cromwell Emergency Interconnections
Project Address(es): 1360 Newfield Street, Middletown, 1250 CT-217,
Middletown, 1198 Middle Street, Middletown, 1398
Shunpike Road, Rocky Hill
Affected Municipalities: Cromwell, Middletown, Berlin, Rocky Hill
Sponsoring Agency(ies): Department of Public Health
Agency Project Number, if applicable: SFY 21-21
Project Funding Source(s)/Program(s), if known: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

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: Joseph Buehler, Sanitary Engineer

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:

The Cromwell Fire District (the district) is seeking to establish additional emergency interconnections due to system vulnerabilities. The district operates one wellfield with a chemical feed and control building for water treatment. The chemical feed and control building has standby power which could be used to maintain short-term system operation during power outages and equipment failures. However, in the event of a long-term supply disruption, such as groundwater contamination or total wellfield failure, the district would need to utilize an alternative source of supply to serve its customers. To improve system resiliency and continue to provide critical services to its customers, an alternative source of supply is necessary.

Description of the Proposed Action:

Establish up to three emergency interconnections with neighboring water systems.

Alternatives Considered:

No action, MDC Route 3 interconnection, Middletown Route 3 Interconnection, Middletown Coles Road Interconnection, Kirby Road/Division Steet Interconnection, Pasco Hill Road Interconnection.

Public concerns or controversy associated with the proposed action:

None

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): Enter text.
- 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 |
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| Effect on water quality, including surface water and groundwater; | Related to drinking water quality: the interconnection must account for differences in water quality between water systems. |
| Effect on a public water supply system; | Designed to increase system redundancy. |
| Effect on flooding, in-stream flows, erosion or sedimentation; | None |
| 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; | None |
| 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; | None |
| Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment; | None |
| Substantial aesthetic or visual effects; | None |
| 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 | None |

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| regional or municipal land use plans; | |
| 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; | None |
| Displacement or addition of substantial numbers of people; | None |
| Substantial increase in congestion (traffic, recreational, other); | None |
| A substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of the action; | None |
| The creation of a hazard to human health or safety; | None |
| Effect on air quality; | None |
| Effect on ambient noise levels; | None |
| Effect on existing land resources and landscapes, including coastal and inland wetlands; | None |
| Effect on agricultural resources; | None |
| Adequacy of existing or proposed utilities and infrastructure; | None |
| Effect on greenhouse gas emissions as a direct or indirect result of the action; | None |
| Effect of a changing climate on the action, including any resiliency measures incorporated into the action; | This project is intended to increase resiliency by creating redundancy in water supply to residents served by water system. |

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| Any other substantial effects on natural, cultural, recreational, or scenic resources. | None |
| Cumulative effects. | None |

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

Local Building Zone Regulations • Local Planning and Zoning Special Permit • Local Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission • The Hartford Metropolitan District for the Rocky Hill Interconnection (Alternative 1) and Inter-municipal Emergency Water Supply Agreement • The City of Middletown for two proposed interconnections (Alternatives 3 and 4) and Intermunicipal Emergency Water Supply Agreement • CTDOT for construction of the Hartford MDC interconnection within their right-of-way on Shunpike Road and hanging the proposed 12-inch water main on the Route 217 Bridge between Cromwell and Middletown. • Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH) for the final design plans and specifications • United State Army Corps of Engineers for the Horizontal Directional Drilling of the proposed water main under the Mattabesset River between Kirby Road in Cromwell and Division Street in Berlin

PART VI – Sponsoring Agency Comments and Recommendations

None

PART VII - Public Comments and Sponsoring Agency Responses:

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection submitted comments. Cromwell Fire District provided response to those comments.