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).



State of Connecticut

Environmental Review Checklist

Last Updated 02/25/2020

PART I – Initial Review and Determination

Date: September 14, 2021

Name of Project/Action: CTWC Naugatuck Region-Central

Crestwood Drive Water Main Extension, Naugatuck

Project Address: Crestwood Drive, Naugatuck

Affected Municipalities: Naugatuck

Sponsoring Agency: Department of Public Health

Agency Project Number, if applicable: N/A

Project Funding Source: Safe 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 <u>NEPA</u>, 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 <u>Section 22a-1a-7 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies</u> (RCSA).

Completed by: Raul Tejada, Sanitary Engineer 3

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 Connecticut Water Company (CTWC), in partnership with the Borough of Naugatuck (BON), is seeking financial assistance under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program to fund the construction of water main along Crestwood Drive and Autumn Ridge Road in Naugatuck. The project will also be receiving federal funding under the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act. This project is necessary to provide safe and adequate drinking water supply to approximately 60 residential homes, which are currently served by individual private wells that have experienced water quality and quantity problems for many years.

Description of the Proposed Action:

This project consists of installation of approx. 3,340 lineal feet of 8-inch diameter pipe of new main along the edge of the road beginning at the intersection between Autumn Ridge Road and Crestwood Drive and extends in front of house #10 on Crestwood Drive. From the intersection between Autumn Ridge Road and Crestwood Drive, the new main will be installed to connect to the terminal end of the existing distribution main on Autumn Ridge Road to make a complete loop connection.

Alternatives Considered:

There was no other alternative considered to address the need of the homeowners.

Public concerns or controversy associated with the proposed action:

The BON held a series of meetings to discuss the project benefits wherein majority of the homeowners were present and had given their full support to move forward with the proposed project. In addition, the BON sent in survey questionnaires to homeowners seeking comments whether they were willing to get connected to the new main. The results of the survey indicated that majority of the homeowners are in favor of receiving water from this water main extension project.

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/webappviev	ver/index.html?id=ba47efccdb304e02893b7b8e8cff556a	
Priority Funding Area factors:		
☑Designated as a Priority Funding Area, including	_	
☑ Urban Area or Urban Cluster, as designated by		
	buffer surrounding existing or planned mass transit;	
☑ Existing or planned sewer service from an adop	,	
	ted Public Drinking Water Supply Plan;	
☐ Existing local bus service provided 7 days a wee	ek.	
Conservation Area factors:		
☐ Core Forest Area(s), defined as greater than 25	0 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): <u>Private</u>		
☐ 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 proposed project is not expected to cause significant impacts to water quality including groundwater and surface water.
Effect on a public water supply system;	The purpose of the proposed project is to extend the existing water distribution main of CTWC located on Autumn Ridge Road and loop around Crestwood Drive to serve the homeowners along the route that have private wells with water quality and quantity issues.
Effect on flooding, in-stream flows, erosion or sedimentation;	Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require a permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges.
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 proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
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;	It is acknowledged that portion of the proposed project is located in an area that is inhabited by state listed species. As a result, Best Management Practices (BMP) will be used during the project construction to prevent ingress of known species in the work zone. In addition, the project contractor will be required to follow the additional BMP identified in the letter from CT DEEP of September 13, 2021. (Attached)
Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment;	Pre-existing pipes may contain PCB contamination in caulk joints and paint. Care must be taken to properly identify and manage this material when discovered. For further information, contact the Bureau of Materials Management & Compliance Assurance, PCB Program at 860-424-3368. Additional information is also available on-line at: PCB Program.
Substantial aesthetic or visual effects;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.

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 first policy of Growth Management Principle #1: ENSURE the safety and integrity of existing infrastructure over its useful life through the timely budgeting for maintenance, repairs and necessary upgrades, and can serve as a performance indicator for measuring progress of the percentage of state capital investment in the priority funding area.
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 proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Displacement or addition of substantial numbers of people;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Substantial increase in congestion (traffic, recreational, other);	The proposed project is not expected to cause a significant impact.
A substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of the action;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
The creation of a hazard to human health or safety;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Effect on air quality;	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. DEEP typically recommends the use of newer off-road construction equipment that meets the latest EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) standards. If that 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 CARB standards for construction projects. These on-road vehicles include dump trucks, fuel delivery trucks and other vehicles typically found at construction sites. Onroad vehicles older than the 2007-model year typically should be retrofitted with diesel oxidation catalysts or diesel particulate filters for projects. The use of newer vehicles that meet EPA standards would eliminate the need for retrofits.
Effect on ambient noise levels;	The proposed project is not expected to cause significant noise in the immediate area.
Effect on existing land resources and landscapes, including coastal and inland wetlands;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Effect on agricultural resources;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Adequacy of existing or proposed utilities and infrastructure;	The individual private wells used the homeowners for drinking water supply have experienced water quality and quantity problems for many years and CTWC has sufficient capacity to provide safe and adequate supply of drinking water to the intended customers.
Effect on greenhouse gas emissions as a direct or indirect result of the action;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Effect of a changing climate on the action, including any resiliency measures incorporated into the action;	Replacing the homeowner' source of supply with safe and adequate source from CTWC will enhance the affected area's resiliency to climate change impacts such as increased risk of drought.
Any other substantial effects on natural, cultural, recreational, or scenic resources.	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
Cumulative effects.	The cumulative impacts of this 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

PART VI – Sponsoring Agency Comments and Recommendations

Based on the DPH's environmental assessment of the proposed project which includes a review of the comments provided by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection dated April 5, 2021, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA. The DPH will coordinate with the CTWC and the Borough of Naugatuck to ensure that the recommendations by the DEEP are implemented.

PART VII - Public Comments and Sponsoring Agency Responses:

Comments and responses are incorporated into the check list items and are included at the end of this document.

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To: Eric McPhee, Department of Public Health

410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12DWS, PO Box 340348, Hartford CT 06134-0308

From: Linda Brunza- Environmental Analyst Telephone: 860-424-3739

Date: 4/5/2021 Email: Linda.Brunza@ct.gov

Subject: Scoping Notice for Crestwood Drive, Naugatuck

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has received the Notice of Scoping for the project proposed by the Department of Public Health (DPH) to provide financial assistance under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program for the construction of a water main along Crestwood Drive and Autumn Ridge Road. This will serve residential homes currently utilizing private wells which have had long standing water quality and quantity problems. Approximately 3,340 linear feet of 8" diameter pipe will be installed to establish a connection.

The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

Natural Diversity Database

The Natural Diversity Database is a record of state or federal listed species maintained by the Wildlife Division that may be found in the project area. A cursory review shows that although the property is not within a Natural Diversity Database area, there are known turtle occurrences in the larger vicinity. A formal NDDB review is not required, but the following selection of best management practices should be followed for this area:

In general, between April 1- November 1:

- Use exclusionary practices to prevent any turtle access into disturbance areas. These measures will need to be installed at the limits of disturbance.
- Exclusionary fencing should be at least 20 inches tall and must be secured to and remain in contact with the ground and be regularly maintained (at least bi-weekly and after major weather events) to secure any gaps or openings at ground level that may let animal pass through.
- All staging and storage areas, outside of previously paved locations, regardless of the duration of time they will be utilized, must be reviewed to remove individuals, and exclude them from re-entry.
- All construction personnel working within the turtle habitat must be apprised of the species description and the possible presence of a listed species.
- The Contractor search the work area each morning prior to any work being done.

- Any turtles encountered within the immediate work area shall be carefully moved to an
 adjacent area outside of the excluded area and fencing should be inspected to identify and
 remove access point. This animal is protected by law and should not be relocated off-site.
- In areas where silt fence is used for exclusion, it shall be removed as soon as the area is stable, and disturbance is finished to allow for reptile and amphibian passage to resume.

Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Wastewater Discharge

Hydrostatic pressure testing wastewater discharges resulting from this project are authorized as "potable water system maintenance wastewaters" under DEEP's *General Permit for Discharges from Miscellaneous Industrial Users* (MIU GP) or the *Comprehensive General Permit for Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater* (Comprehensive GP). The new MIU GP was effective October 31, 2020 and states that dischargers now send their notification to the applicable Publicly Owned Treatment Authority that is receiving the wastewater. Another change is that the MIU GP requires notification to the applicable POTW Authority for the discharge of "potable water system maintenance or sampling wastewaters" if certain operating conditions in the permit are followed. In the MIU GP, those conditions are located at Appendix H (5) on page 66.

If sanitary sewer is not available in the area, the discharger can use the Comprehensive GP for a discharge to the ground or a surface water. Registration of "potable water system maintenance or sampling wastewaters" is not required in the Comprehensive GP if certain operating conditions in the permit are followed. In the Comprehensive GP, those conditions are located on page 28 at Section 5(a)(3)(O) for discharges to surface water and on page 29 at Section 5(a)(3)(P) for discharges to groundwater.

The Miscellaneous and Comprehensive General Permits are administered by the Water Permitting and Enforcement Division of DEEP's Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance. A general permit sets terms and conditions for conducting an activity which are protective of the environment. Questions can be directed to Don Gonyea, 860-424-3827, donadd.gonyea@ct.gov; or Jim Creighton, 860-424-3681, james.creighton@ct.gov.

Idling

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.

404/401 Water Quality Certification

It is unknown whether the pipes will be installed under the roadway or shoulders, with no direct wetland impacts. If there are any undeveloped areas within the area to be impacted, it is recommended that a certified soil scientist perform a reconnaissance of the site in order to determine whether there are any areas which would be regulated as wetlands or watercourses as defined by section 22a-38 (15) and (16) of the CGS, respectively. If the reconnaissance identifies regulated areas, they should be clearly delineated. Any activity within federal regulated wetland

areas or watercourses at the site may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Further information is available on-line at Army Corps of Engineers, New England District or by calling the Corps Regulatory Branch in Concord, Massachusetts at 978-318-8338. If a permit is required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a Water Quality Certificate will also be required from DEEP pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act. For further information, contact the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-3019. A fact sheet regarding 401 Water Quality Certification is available on-line at 401 Certification.

Stormwater Management during Construction

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require a permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges.

The construction stormwater general permit dictates separate compliance procedures for Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects (as defined in the permit). Locally Exempt construction projects disturbing over 1 acre must submit a registration form and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) to DEEP. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of one to five acres are not required to register with DEEP provided the development plan has been approved by a municipal land use agency and adheres to local erosion and sediment control land use regulations and the *CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of five or more acres must submit a registration form to DEEP. This registration shall include a certification by a Qualified Professional who designed the project and a certification by a Qualified Professional or regional Conservation District who reviewed the SWPCP and deemed it consistent with the requirements of the general permit. The SWPCP for Locally Approvable projects is not required to be submitted to DEEP unless requested. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3018. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: Construction Stormwater GP.

Clean Vehicles

DEEP typically recommends the use of newer off-road construction equipment that meets the latest EPA or California Air Resources Board (CARB) standards. If that 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 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. The use of newer vehicles that meet EPA standards would eliminate the need for retrofits.

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, DEEP Robin Blum, DEEP James Creighton, DEEP 79 Elm Street • Hartford, CT 06106-5127

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September 13, 2021

Santiago Bolanos The Connecticut Water Company 446 Smith Street Middletown, CT 06457 santiago.bolanos@ctwater.com

Project: Crestwood Drive Water Main Extension, Crestwood Drive, Naugatuck, cT

NDDB Determination Number: 202109428

Dear Santiago Bolanos,

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Database (NDDB) maps and files regarding the area of work provided for the Crestwood Drive Water Main Extension, proposed for Crestwood Drive, Nauguatuck. According to our records, the following State Listed Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern species have been documented in the vicinity of the project:

Box turtle (Terrapene carolina carolina) – State Special Concern

In Connecticut, these turtles are found in well-drained forest bottomlands and a matrix of open deciduous forests, early successional habitat, fields, gravel pits, and or powerlines. Turtles are dormant between November 1 and April 1 and hibernate in only a few inches from the surface in forested habitat.

The greatest threat to this species is habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation due to development. This species is very sensitive to adult mortality because of late maturity (10 years old) and long life span (50-100years). Vehicular traffic, heavy equipment used for farming, and ATV use in natural areas are implicated specifically in adult mortality through collisions. Illegal collection by the pet trade and unknowing public for home pets exacerbates mortality rates and removes important individuals from the population. Predation rates are also unnaturally high because of increased predator populations (e.g. skunks, foxes, raccoons, and crows) that surround developed areas.

Thank you for noting on your application that Best Management Practices will be used to prevent ingress of known species in the work zone; that if any known species are found they will be relocated to nearby areas away from the construction site, and that the contractor will inspect staging areas daily in search of known species that may have entered.

Additional detail on these Best Management Practices is provided below. In general, between April 1st - November 1st:

• Use exclusionary practices to prevent any turtle access into disturbance areas. These measures will need to be installed at the limits of disturbance as shown on the plans.

- Exclusionary fencing be at least 20 inches tall and must be secured to and remain in contact with the ground and be regularly maintained (at least bi-weekly and after major weather events) to secure any gaps or openings at ground level that may let animal pass through.
- All staging and storage areas, outside of previously paved locations, regardless of the duration of time they will be utilized, must be reviewed to remove individuals and exclude them from re-entry.
- All construction personnel working within the turtle habitat must be apprised of the species description and the possible presence of a listed species.
- The Contractor should search the work area each morning prior to any work being done.
- Any turtles encountered within the immediate work area shall be carefully moved to an
 adjacent area outside of the excluded area and fencing should be inspected to identify and
 remove access point. This animal is protected by law and should not be relocated off-site.
- In areas where silt fence is used for exclusion, it shall be removed as soon as the area is stable and disturbance is finished to allow for reptile and amphibian passage to resume.

The result of this review does not preclude the possibility that additional listed species may be encountered on site and that further action may be necessary to remain in compliance with certain state permits. This determination is good for two years. Please submit a new NDDB Request for Review if the scope of work changes or if work has not begun on the project by September 13, 2023.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Natural History Survey, cooperating units of DEEP, landowners, private conservation groups and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the NDDB should not be substituted for on-site surveys necessary for a thorough environmental impact assessment. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional population of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the database as it becomes available.

Please contact me at robin.blum@ct.gov if you have further questions. Thank you for consulting the Natural Diversity Database.

Robin Blum

Wildlife Biologist

Rown Burn

CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection