



State of Connecticut

# Environmental Review Checklist

Last Updated 02/25/2020

## PART I – Initial Review and Determination

Date:	6/7/2022
Name of Project/Action:	Bergstrom Wellfield and Treatment Plant
Project Address:	49 Plumtrees Road, Bethel CT 06801
Affected Municipalities:	Bethel
Sponsoring Agency:	Department of Public Health
Agency Project Number, if applicable:	SFY 18-15
Project Funding Source(s)/Program(s), if known:	Drinking Water State Revolving Loan 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: Florin Ghisa, 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:

Bethel Water Department relies on a combination of ground water sources (wells) and two surface water supply reservoirs for their drinking water supply. The surface water reservoirs are treated by Chestnut Ridge Water Treatment Plant and Eureka Water Treatment Plant. The safe yield of the reservoirs is insufficient and the quality varies greatly during the year. The treatment plants are old and in need for serious rehabilitation, therefore Bethel's strategy is to move away from utilizing the surface water supplies and rely solely on ground water supply, therefore the development of Bergstrom Well.

### Description of the Proposed Action:

The proposed project includes installation of a well pump and associated raw water piping and electrical equipment for Bergstrom Well and construction of a new water treatment plant building and treatment process to remove iron and manganese from this well using GreensandPlus™ filter media, sodium hypochlorite for oxidation and disinfection, sodium hydroxide for pH adjustment (if needed) and 50/50 poly/ortho blend for corrosion control, civil site work, piping, electrical, mechanical and instrumentation and control equipment and components, alarms and SCADA connection. The proposed project also includes construction of a finish water transmission main to connect to the existing distribution system on Plumtrees Road, backwash water supply tank, backwash water storage and recycle tank, sanitary pump station and force main and residuals pump station.

### Alternatives Considered:

The Preliminary Engineering Report evaluated several options to connect and utilize the new well, and it has been determined that this one is the most economically feasible alternative.

### Public concerns or controversy associated with the proposed action:

There is no known public concern or controversy related to the proposed action. During the scoping period, there were no comments received from the public.

**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**

<b>Required Factors for Consideration (Section 22a-1a-3 of the RCSA)</b>	<b>Agency’s Assessment and Explanation</b>
<p>Effect on water quality, including surface water and groundwater;</p>	<p>a. The Bethel Water Department’s Maple Avenue Aquifer Protection Area mapped boundary enters the property parcel of 49 Plumtrees Road at the most southern property line. The project area will be at the Bergstrom Well and Water Treatment Plant which is located north and outside the aquifer protection area, according to the map of the project area. The map of the project area should be revised to include the Bethel Water Department’s Maple Ave Aquifer Protection Area and labeled as such.</p> <p>b. The State Aquifer Protection Land Use Regulations can be downloaded at: Aquifer Protection Regulations. For additional information on aquifer protection please contact the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-3335..</p> <p>c. Water Diversion- Section 22a-377(b)-1(5) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies exempts this activity regardless of the proposed volume of water to be provided given that the subject distribution main is taking place entirely within an Exclusive Service Area of the Aquarion Water Company:</p> <p><i>Diversion of water, or increase in the capacity to divert water, incidental to providing water treatment, <b>extending distribution mains</b>, or maintaining or expanding service <b>within a service area</b>, provided the quantity of water withdrawn from any source does not exceed the quantity authorized pursuant to any applicable permit issued or registration filed under section 22a-368 of the Connecticut General Statute.</i></p> <p>A Consumptive Water Diversion permit was issued for this wellfield on 12/4/19 for a maximum daily withdrawal of 1.152 million gallons per day. Doug Hoskins of the Consumptive Water Diversion Program may be contacted at 860-424-4192 or douglas.hoskins@ct.gov for more information.</p> <p>d. Groundwater – The proposed project is not expected to cause significant impacts to groundwater.</p>

	<p>e. Flooding – No significant impacts expected. The proposed location of the Treatment plant is above the 500 year Flood Elevation.</p> <p>f. Erosion or Sedimentation – The Town of Bethel will ensure that best management practices are implemented during construction to control erosion and sedimentation.</p>
Effect on a public water supply system;	Hydrostatic pressure testing wastewater discharges resulting from this project are authorized as “potable water system maintenance wastewaters” under the Comprehensive General Permit for Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater (Comprehensive General Permit). No formal registration is required under the Comprehensive General Permit for this discharge but operating conditions and effluent limits of the Comprehensive General Permit must be complied with. 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 Jim Creighton, 860-424-3681, james.creighton@ct.gov.
Effect on flooding, in-stream flows, erosion or sedimentation;	The proposed project is not expected to cause any impacts.
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 significant 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;	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. An application has already been submitted for this project and a Determination Letter; No. 202112000, was issued. For any questions, please contact the analyst listed in the Determination Letter. For general information concerning NDDDB reviews please review the DEEP website section for NDDDB Requests.
Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to	The project construction will not include any use of toxic or hazardous materials. The chemicals used in the treatment plant will be stored inside the building.

cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment;	
Substantial aesthetic or visual effects;	The project is not expected to cause substantial aesthetic or visual impacts in the area as the location is in a remote area, far from any dwelling or residential areas.
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 negative impacts.
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;	The proposed project is not expected to cause significant impacts to air quality. <b>Vehicle Idling:</b> Section 22a-174-18(b)(3)(C) of the 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.
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 proposed infrastructure (well and treatment building) will be constructed in conformance with current building codes and standards.
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;	The proposed project is not expected to cause negative impacts.
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 DEEP dated 4/14/2022, 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 Town of Bethel 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 above.