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May 20, 2014

Lori Mathieu
Public Health Section Chief
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

RECEIVED MAY 29 2014

Re: Notice of Hearings issued April 17, 2014

Dear Ms. Mathieu:

The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Water Protection & Land Reuse has received the Notice of Hearings regarding the alteration of the boundaries of the public water supply management areas and the priorities for initiation of the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) planning process established in C.G.S. §§ 25-33f to 25-33h, inclusive.

The Department acknowledges the difficulty of revising established boundaries such as these and all the considerations that go into the revisions. However, we urge a close connection of the public water supply management areas to the major drainage basin divides (Thames River Basin, Connecticut River Basin, and Housatonic River Basin), while respecting town boundaries and public water supply infrastructure.

The Department understands the efficiencies of consolidating down to four areas, however, the issues and concerns between the southern coastal/metropolitan areas of the state and the northwestern and northeastern portions of the state are markedly different. You may wish to consider further dividing the proposed Western Connecticut WUCC into Northwestern and Southwestern, similar to the Northeastern and Southeastern areas.

The Department concurs with the proposed prioritization of the WUCC planning process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. We look forward to participating in the WUCC process as it progresses. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Robert Hust of my staff at 860-424-3718.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Wingfield".

Betsey Wingfield
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse