



# Connecticut's Public Water Supply Coordinated Planning Process

Water Summit – subcommittee discussion  
January 2014

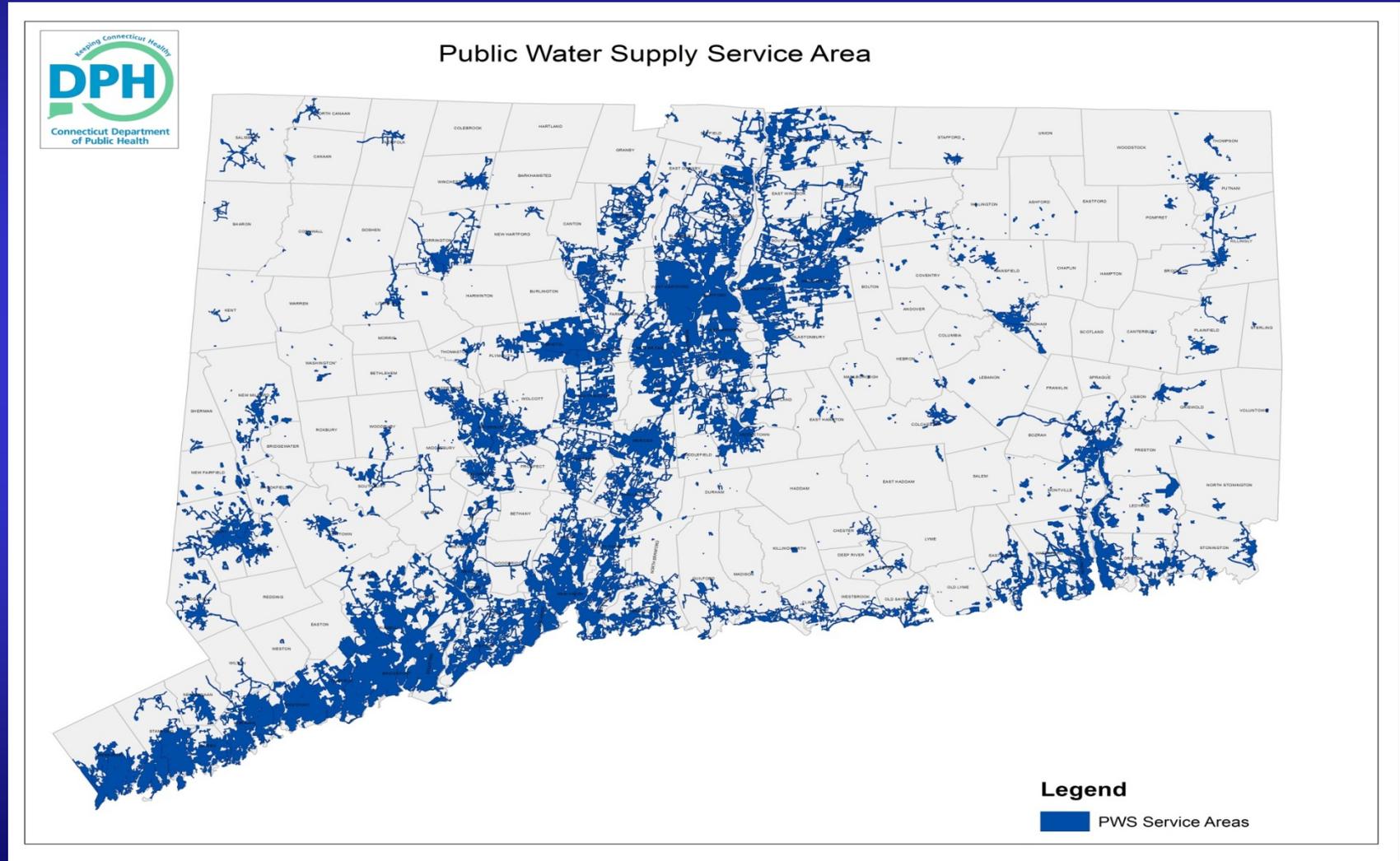
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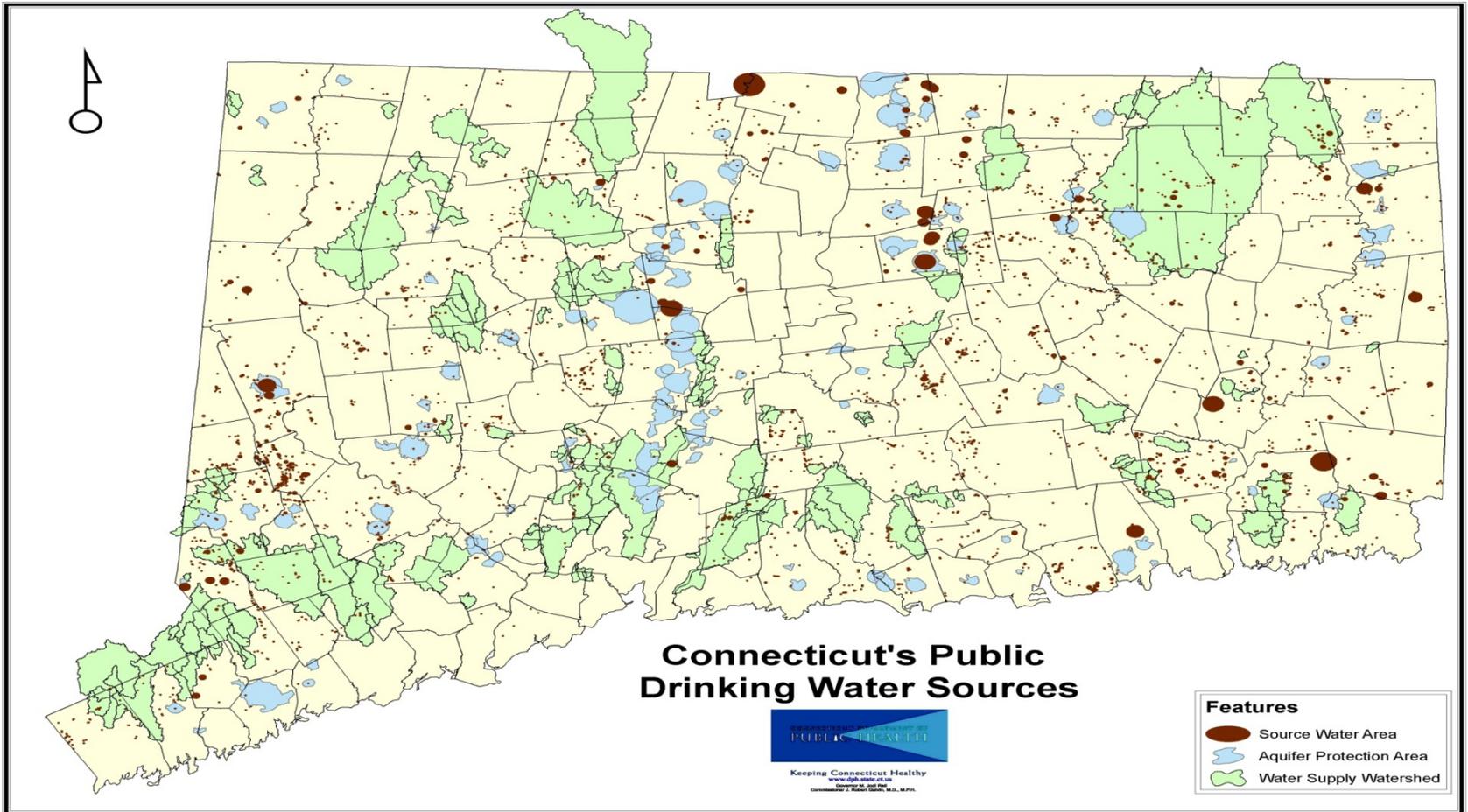
# DPH Drinking Water Section Regulated Entities

- 💧 Connecticut has 3.59 million residents; 2.9 million state residents are served by public water systems;
- 💧 Notwithstanding geographical breadth > 2,500 public water systems serve with > 4,400 individual sources;
- 💧 96 community systems serve 1,000 or more residents;
- 💧 461 community systems serve < 1,000 residents;
- 💧 199 community systems serve < 100 residents;
- 💧 2,028 non-community public systems that exist across the state are entities such as schools, daycare centers, restaurants, state parks and private campgrounds, etc.

# Public Water Service Areas



# Public Drinking Water Sources



# Reservoir – Surface Water Source at a Large Community Public Water System



# Dug Well – Ground Water Supply at a Small Community Public Water System





# DPH Drinking Water Section

## Commissioner's Authority

- 💧 CGS 25-32(a) – DPH shall have jurisdiction over all matters concerning the purity and adequacy of public water supply;
- 💧 CGS 25-32b – DPH can declare a "public drinking water supply emergency" to assure continued adequacy of the state's existing public drinking water supplies in the event of contamination, failure of a public water supply system, and water shortages;
- 💧 CGS 25-33(b) – DPH oversees approval of newly constructed and upgraded public water systems and sources of supply;
- 💧 CGS 25-33q - DPH high quality source (HQS) list identifies current and potential future sources requiring protection to assure highest quality waters are available for human consumption;
- 💧 CGS 25-34 & 43 – DPH can issue orders if public drinking water is threatened or polluted.

## **Statewide Water Supply Planning**

[Water Utility Coordinating Committee \(WUCC\) Process](#)  
[Sale of Excess Water \(SEW\) Permits](#)  
[Water Conservation, Water Use Restrictions, & Drought Planning](#)  
[Certificate Phase 1A feasible interconnection evaluation](#)  
Proposed Legislation Review  
[Department of Environmental Protection Diversion Permit Review](#)  
Potable water supply options for contaminated areas  
Minimum Stream Flow Review  
Water Supply Adequacy Technical Review  
DPH High Quality Source (HQS) list  
Drinking Water Section Circular Letters

## **Source Water Protection**

[Well siting permits](#)  
[Water company land permits](#)  
[Watershed survey review/approval](#)  
Water Company recreational permits  
[Pesticide permits](#)  
Source Water Protection workshops  
Local project reviews  
Spill/Bypass Response  
[Department of Environmental Protection Diversion Permit Review](#)  
[Drinking Water Quality Management Plan development](#)  
[Connecticut Environmental Policy Act & State Agency project reviews](#)  
[Class III land verification](#)  
[Source Abandonment Permits](#)  
[Water Company Screening Applications](#)

## **Compliance Regions**

Sanitary Surveys (Routine & Priority)  
[General Technical Assistance to Public Water Systems/Consumers](#)  
Project Reviews & DWSRF/STEAP/STAG Technical Reviews  
[Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Phase 1B and 2](#)  
Consumer Complaints  
[Security/Emergency Response](#)  
Sanitary Survey Response Compliance  
[Cross Connection Control](#)  
[GWUDI Reviews](#)  
Water Supply Plan Process & Review

## **Enforcement and Certification**

[Maximum Contaminant Level \(MCL\) Violations](#)  
[Monitoring and Reporting Violations](#)  
[Public Notification Rule Violations](#)  
[Formal Enforcement Actions and Tracking](#)  
[Drinking Water Standard Exceedances](#)  
[Lead and Copper Action Level Exceedances and Requirements](#)  
[Consumer Confidence Reports](#)  
[Monthly Operating/Treatment Log Violations](#)  
Enforcement Targeting Tool Response  
Attorney General Referrals  
[Certification of Operators](#)  
[Operator Training](#)  
[Technical Assistance to Operators](#)  
[System Operator Compliance](#)  
Operator Investigations  
Operator Disciplinary Actions  
[Certification of Backflow Personnel](#)  
[WTP Classification Form reviews](#)

## **Information Systems**

[Rule Implementation and Compliance Determination](#)  
[Monitoring Requirements and Schedules](#)  
[Water System Inventory Maintenance](#)  
[Water System Contact Information](#)  
[Electronic Data Interchange \(EDI\)](#)  
Data Systems Management (SDWIS, ESS, DWSCAD)  
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)  
Document Management and Archiving  
Website Design and Maintenance  
Data Quality Assurance/Quality Control  
[CT and EPA Reporting Requirements](#)  
[Bottled Water Source Review](#)  
Fluoridation  
[Annual Public Water System Violations Report](#)  
[Reservoir Capacity Monitoring](#)  
[Water Company Screening Applications](#)

## **Capacity Development**

[Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund](#)  
Grants Management  
Capitalization Grant  
Public Water System Supervision Grant  
Water Protection Coordination Grant  
EPA Performance Partnership Agreement  
Federal Special Appropriations Projects ([STAG-Drinking Water Projects](#))  
[Capacity Development Coordinator](#)  
Regulation Development Coordinator  
Contracts  
Asset Management Training  
Quality Management Plan  
Quality Assurance Project Plan  
Outreach and Education Support



# Coordinated Water System Planning - Historical Context & Legislative Intent

- 💧 1980-81 extended drought led to a 1985 Water Resources Task Force Report ([http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking\\_water/pdf/Final\\_Report\\_of\\_the\\_Water\\_Resources\\_Task\\_Force.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/drinking_water/pdf/Final_Report_of_the_Water_Resources_Task_Force.pdf));
- 💧 In 1985 the General Assembly passed a legislative finding; CGS 25-33c, which states the coordinated planning process intent “an adequate supply of potable water is vital to the health and well-being of the people of the state. ... available water ... is limited ... and must be developed with a minimum of loss and waste. ... to maximize efficient and effective development of the state's public water supply systems and promote public health, safety and welfare, the Department of Public Health ... coordinate the planning of public water supply systems.”;
- 💧 Regulations that passed require community systems that serve > 1000 persons to submit water supply plans; plan implementation is not required or enforceable;



# Coordinated Water System Planning – More Questions or Answers?

- 💧 Why does a need for Coordinated Water System Planning exist?
- 💧 Coordinated Water System Planning is commonly known and denoted in statute as the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) process. How does the state planning process operate?
- 💧 What is the legal composition and who should attend and actively participate in the state's delineated WUCC management areas?
- 💧 When is a WUCC management area convened and what is the present status of the state's current WUCC management areas?
- 💧 Why is the completion of the WUCC public water system coordinated planning process so important to Connecticut now?
- 💧 What is the DPH's future vision for the state's WUCC process and how could the DPH's vision be successfully accomplished?



# Water Utility Coordinating Committee - Operational Process/Technical Procedures

- 💧 Delineation of WUCC Management Area Map
- 💧 DPH Public Hearing - Priority Order of Scheduling
- 💧 Committee Organization, Procedures, Best Practices
- 💧 Regional Coordinated Plan
  - 💧 Water Supply Assessment – technical foundation on which the entire state coordinated planning process is built; this report evaluates water supply conditions and identifies area-wide water supply and system issues, concerns, and needs;
  - 💧 Delineation of Exclusive Service Area (ESA) Boundaries
  - 💧 Integrated Report
  - 💧 Executive Summary

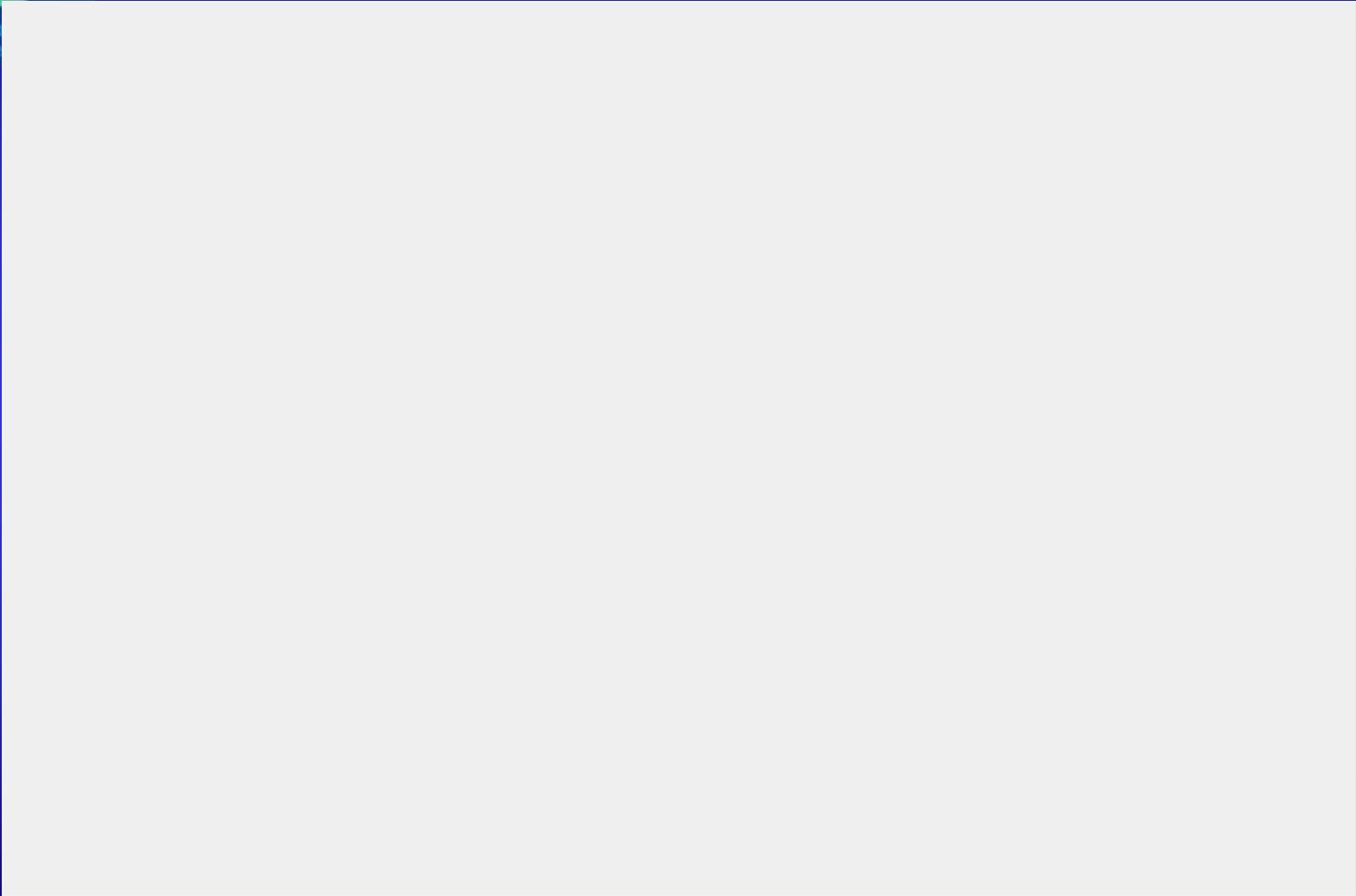
# Standard Rules and Procedures - Schedules

## At a minimum WUCC meetings shall be convened for:

- ☉ Regular meetings shall be scheduled at least annually; meetings should be scheduled at least semi-annually until statewide planning and stream flow implementation are complete;
- ☉ When management area officers declare need for a meeting;
- ☉ When Department of Public Health declares need for a meeting;
- ☉ When participating agencies; Department of Energy and Environment Protection (includes Public Utilities Regulatory Authority), Office of Policy and Management request meeting;
- ☉ When a public water system, state agency, municipality, or regional planning agency requests a meeting to award, remove, revise or clarify a state approved Exclusive Service Area;



# Public Water Supply Management Areas





# WUCC Management Area Status Update

- 💧 Housatonic – Convened on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1986; CWSP was completed September 1988 (status: not approved);
- 💧 Upper CT River – Convened on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1987; CWSP was completed March 1989 (status: not approved);
- 💧 South Central CT – Convened November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1987; CWSP completed April 1990 (status: not approved);
- 💧 Southeastern CT – Convened on August 5, 1998; CWSP completed March 2001 (status: approved February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2002);
- 💧 Northeast WUCC – never convened
- 💧 Northwest WUCC – never convened
- 💧 Southwest WUCC – never convened



# WUCC Planning Process Overview

- 🔹 Four (4) of the state's existing seven (7) management areas convened; one coordinated plan approved (SEWUCC);
- 🔹 Revived WUCC meetings and enhanced target audience to include chief elected officials, local health directors, concerned environmental constituency groups;
- 🔹 Identification of WUCC planning process concerns; on-going stakeholder discussions regarding water supply adequacy and sufficient technical data required for successful planning;
- 🔹 Renewed interest by water systems, local municipal officials, and water resource stakeholders;
- 🔹 Critical connection to small public water system sustainability through the state's Certificate process (CPCN CGS 16-262m).



# Coordinated Water System Planning – Why now? What are critical processes?

- 💧 Brings public water systems and water resource stakeholders together in a regional forum with state agencies, municipal officials, regional planners, health directors, and the public at large to identify regional solutions to local water issues;
- 💧 Transparent open public discussion and discourse of public water supply issues can take place with critical stakeholders;
- 💧 Water successes realized working together in the Southeastern CT WUCC have furthered more disparate regional planning efforts through the state's Council of Governments structure;
- 💧 Small community systems are currently under review concerning capacity to operate. The issue can be reviewed through completion of the coordinated planning process with statewide assignment of Exclusive Service Area providers and the Certificate process.



# Essential Requirements to Complete Statewide Water Supply Planning

- 💧 Understand current and prospective future public water needs;
- 💧 Evaluate the supply adequacy and margin of safety of existing large community public water systems statewide to define corresponding local, regional, and state excess supply capacity or supply deficit;
- 💧 Ensure that individual water supply plans and regional coordinated plans address current and prospective future public supply needs to assure sustainable, cost-effective public water service in the state;
- 💧 Engage, involve, and incorporate 'new' stakeholders in the state water supply planning process including council of governments, local elected officials and health directors, and environmentalists;
- 💧 Added focus on water conservation and reuse; protection of high quality sources for human consumption; emergency preparedness.



# Completing the WUCC Planning Process

## The DPH Vision Moving Forward

- 💧 Promote consistent WUCC standard procedures and protocols;
- 💧 Engage water resource stakeholders to encourage involvement and active participation to grow state coordinated planning;
- 💧 Identify essential needs and engage staffing resources;
- 💧 Hold a public hearing to realign management area boundaries;
- 💧 Proposed WUCC boundaries will coincide with Connecticut's new council of government boundaries to further implement coordinated planning into the regional government structure;