I find this entire “water plan” complete nonsense. We need to pass stricter dumping laws and EPA laws in order for this to make sense. Triple the fines that are currently in place. Then, maybe companies will take it seriously.

Water is a public trust, held for the benefit of all. When water gets privatized, people begin to think that they “own” pieces of CT water. A water company provides infrastructure for delivery of water to its customers, but its customers are paying for the infrastructure not the water. Across the country and indeed the world, privatization of water has led to severe water wars, lack of water for people who desperately need it, conflicts, and the use of water as a resource for power. It may seem that these are unlikely occurrences here in CT, but Fracking, MLG is an example of how water can be captured by the bottled water industry if governments will not set limits.

Section 5 particularly like the suggestions for conflict resolution. I think the Advisory Group can make these recommendations to the public for resolution to the problems that water utilities are facing. It is the State Water Plan that could be used as a guide for resolving conflicts so that it is not resolved solely by people's special interests.

I was shocked to learn that there is no index to the right places where flooding was considered. Coastal flooding is not addressed in the plan because there are other plans being compiled. But what about in-land flooding? I found some references to floods, but they were not indexed, so it is not clear what can be done to deal with flooding. An index could point me to the right places where flooding was considered. Coastal flooding is not considered in the plan because there are other plans being compiled. But what about in-land flooding? I found some references to floods, but they were not indexed, so it is not clear what can be done to deal with flooding. An index could point me to the right places where flooding was considered.

Water bottled here in CT leave our state never to return. Because of this, bottled water depletes our own water resources. It is important that we do not deplete our regional water resources. It is important that we do not deplete our regional water resources.

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Dear Water Planning Council:

I am a resident of Bloomfield and a parent of two children, ages 11 and 13. I have been following the Water Plan draft process closely and am concerned about the current draft. As a parent, I feel strongly that the Water Plan must prioritize public health and safety.

I would like to raise several issues that I believe are critical to the Water Plan:

1. Public Participation: As a member of the public, I feel that there has been insufficient public input into the Water Plan. The public has not had an opportunity to provide feedback on the issues that are being addressed in the draft plan.

2. Water Quality: The Water Plan needs to focus more on ensuring that the water supply is safe and free from contamination. The draft plan does not provide enough information about the current water quality and how it is being monitored.

3. Water Conservation: Water conservation is essential to ensuring a sustainable water supply. The draft plan does not place enough emphasis on water conservation measures.

4. Public Trust: The Water Plan should be guided by the principle that water is a public trust. The draft plan does not adequately address the need to protect and conserve water resources for future generations.

5. Water Management: The Water Plan needs to be more focused on water management. The draft plan does not provide enough information about how water is being managed and how water use is being monitored.

I urge the Water Planning Council to consider these issues and make the necessary changes to the draft plan. I look forward to seeing a final plan that is comprehensive, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Our water is a public trust resource and NOT a corporate asset. The state plan recommends “balancing the uses of water” and refrains from prioritizing any use over another. It SHOULD prioritize residents, ecologic health, and local agriculture and industry. NSTP out of state water bottling corporations focused on private profit. The plan does not suggest any regulatory oversight for large scale water bottling plants which send treated potable water out of our state borders. Encourage the large municipal water utilities to consider conservation pricing and promote “Watersense” products to CT residents.

Climate change and new stream flow requirements. Our drought regulations need to be standardized, the drought trigger revised, and uniform municipal drought responses adopted. Our Class 1 and Class 2 Watersheds need definitive protection, and natural streams need to be classified outside of an industrial discharge. We need to implement conservation pricing. People understand issues when they affect their pocketbook. Make it clear that a customer who reduces their water use will be rewarded for using less water (much lower rates for these customers than currently), and customers will be penalized for using more water. The plan does not suggest any regulatory oversight for large scale water bottling plants which send treated potable water out of our state borders. We need to prioritize water conservation first and foremost, before we can address the environment. Water is a public trust resource and NOT a corporate asset. In Connecticut, the function of anaerobic digestion is considered an industrial process, and as such, the Wenham WWTP needs to be classified outside of an industrial process.

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Vanessa Urban West Hartford

Catherine Garofalo Hartford

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First, I applaud those involved in creating a water plan for our state. I want to comment on the item, use of class B wastewater for irrigation. If treated wastewater is used, I would like to see the water be available to businesses and citizens at a lower rate. I would support any effort to institute a fee for this and put the funds toward upgrading local wastewater treatment. I believe the plan does not suggest any regulatory oversight for large scale water bottling plants which send treated potable water out of our state borders. Encouraging the large municipal water utilities to consider conservation pricing and promote “Watersense” products to CT residents.

Kathleen Westport Conservation Director

Schonfeld Urban West Hartford

Robbie Rivers Alliance of CT

David Bloomfield Louisa Robbie City/Town: Sharon

Our water is held in trust for the future generations. Our water should not be bottled and sold by private companies. Water rates should not be so high as to cause shut off of anyone’s water. Payment plans and financial hardships should be discounted.

I was a member of the Old Saybrook WPCA Steering Committee when the WWTP was built. I and several others submitted an example of a Water Re-Use Ordinance in my capacity as the Old Saybrook WPCA Coordinator. The Ordinance was written by Jay Sheehan P.E. of Woodard and Curran. Besides suggesting that the State become more invested in nutrient removal (BNR) process to “clean” our wastewater after the digestion process. This BNR process removes 98% of the nutrients from our wastewater. In Connecticut, the function of anaerobic digestion is considered an industrial process. The Wenham WWTP needs to be classified outside of an industrial process.

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As a member of the Old Saybrook WPCA, I would like to submit the following comments in my capacity as the Old Saybrook WPCA Coordinator. The Ordinance was written by Jay Sheehan P.E. of Woodard and Curran. Besides suggesting that the State become more invested in nutrient removal (BNR) process to “clean” our wastewater after the digestion process. This BNR process removes 98% of the nutrients from our wastewater. In Connecticut, the function of anaerobic digestion is considered an industrial process. The Wenham WWTP needs to be classified outside of an industrial process.

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Dear Water Planning Council: Thanks for your hard work in drafting the CT State Water Plan. This is a great way to emphasize how valuable water resources are to our state. Water is a public trust resource belonging to all Connecticut residents. I believe that point is made clear in your final report. Connecticut’s water should also be managed to support sustainable development and growth and to protect the environment. I am glad to see that the plan addresses these issues.

I believe that water is held in public trust and belongs to all of us. We have clean water because we have taken care of this resource. We need to balance water usage for in-stream and out-of-stream uses. It is important to evaluate water diversion for each water basin to make sure that in-stream and out-of-stream uses remain balanced. The following points are critical for a balanced water plan, in my opinion.

1. All registered diversions must be evaluated for their impact on balanced water usage, including aquifer management. Diversion permits should be revoked according to the evaluation results.

2. Water held as a public trust should not be sold or rented on any basis, especially not for financial gain or to benefit the goals of purely financial motivated parties.

3. The State of CT needs to regulate water usage based on river basin or watershed geography and promote regional decision-making to ensure that the right amount of water is available for the right purpose.

4. Water is vital to human life and should be safe, clean, and available to the public. Private families’ water use is only a small fraction of water use and waste. Housing property management, municipal works, and industrial businesses use and waste and contaminate far more water.

5. We all have a vested interest in exploiting our water resources. Conserving water is not only beneficial to our ecosystems, but it helps us be more resilient to climate change and ensures our resource will be available for our children and our children’s children.

6. Water should be available where it is. To do otherwise runs the risk of none being available to the people at the source of local water. To move water from one watershed to another is disruptive to the environment and may result in pollution and other negative effects.

7. Thank you again for all your hard work and I hope you take these comments, as well as all others you receive, into consideration and implement suggestions into the plan.
The development of a State Water Plan (SWP) presents a unique opportunity for the people of Connecticut, to protect our valuable natural waters for our own and future generations. It is our responsibility not only to move this Plan forward but to be sure that there are consequences for failing to adhere to it. Long under development, the SWP must propose precise rules to solve the problems highlighted below in a timely manner. Everyone must conserve water, including large companies: The final SWP should recommend automatic, enforceable conservation measures for large water users, including private water companies and municipalities, during times of drought. The SWP should recommend that private water companies and municipalities, during times of drought:

- Let’s not sell any of CTs ground water to private companies, i.e. Pepsi, Coke, Nestle.
- Streamflow Regulations: The plan should recommend that water withdrawals attained through groundwater pumping be subject to Connecticut’s streamflow regulations.
- Registered Diversions: The SWP should call for a thorough review of all grandfathered registrations (not just expired or unused ones!) to ensure that active diversions do not adversely impact water levels.
- Impaired Water Bodies: The state water plan should directly identify and communicate the social and financial benefits of Connecticut’s natural water resources as well as the necessity of adequate natural water resources for the sustenance and benefit of the general public and wildlife in the public trust. To identify and communicate the social and financial benefits of Connecticut’s natural water resources as well as the necessity of adequate natural water resources for the sustenance and benefit of the general public and wildlife in the public trust.
- A statewide water plan must proactively support and allow for complete transparency of utility water use and management data by the public. State, and more specifically, water utility exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) must be eliminated.
Dear Water Planning Council Members:

I am writing to ask for a stronger State Water Plan (SWP) that offers specific policy solutions to protect Connecticut’s water supplies and ensure adequate stream flows for fish and aquatic wildlife. Due to the impacts of climate change and drought being felt in communities across Connecticut and the nation, our state needs a water plan that sustainably balances public and private water needs with those of a healthy environment. The current draft of the SWP falls short in this regard.

The SWC should reallocate the first State Water Plan that makes the following recommendations to the state legislature:

Water Conservation: The SWP should recommend affordable, enforceable conservation measures for large water-users, including private water companies and municipalities, during times of drought.

Drought Planning: Connecticut needs a drought plan with a uniform, variable set of triggers and actionable drought levels for all 169 towns to be completed as soon as possible so that Connecticut’s towns and cities will be able to react to the necessary drought planning to reduce and prevent the degradation of our state’s water resources.

The plan should include detailed data and maps of all large “A” watersheds in the state. A thorough review of the CT DEEP Drought and Streamflow monitoring program. Develop a state-wide database of streams, and place long term monitoring should be completed.

The SWC should consider the following ideas for water protection and safety should be considered. For example replacing traditional sewage treatment with municipal biodigesters (create energy, clean compost, and clean water). Another example, promoting composting toilets at homes and businesses. Devise a framework for moving forward and continue to ensure that our water resources are not being mined.

Some of our concerns that are not addressed in the State Water Plan:

1. The plan does not establish a mechanism for making decisions about water use; when push comes to shove, who’s going to “win” and who will make that decision? Those of us who have been involved in the process of developing the draft State Water Plan understand that this is a great DEEP STAFF in working through the management of water resources. The SWC should consider adopting a mechanism for making decisions about water use and conservation that would be a part of the draft State Water Plan.

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3. The plan must highlight the need to resolve the issue of registered diversions. The “grandfathered” problem is the single greatest impediment to rational and informed management of the state’s water resources. The SWC should consider adopting a mechanism for making decisions about water use and conservation that would be a part of the draft State Water Plan.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Marija
Ashford Aquatic
Simsbury, CT

Multiple
The development of a State Water Plan (SWP) presents a unique opportunity for the people of Connecticut, to protect our valuable natural waters for our and future generations. It is our responsibility not only to move this Plan forward but to see that it is consequential. Long over due development, the SWP must prepare precise reasons to solve the problems highlighted below in a timely manner. Everyone must conserve water, including large companies. The final SWP should recommend automatic, enforceable conservation measures for large water users, including private water companies and municipalities, during times of drought. 

**PROJECT NORTH DRAINAGE:** Maintaining streamflows is critical to protecting water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife. The plan should recommend cutback of drainage areas to allow streamflows to be subject to Connecticut’s streamflow regulations. It is currently legal to drawdown or extract water from groundwater and other sources creating artificial droughts resulting in aquatic wildlife kills. Prior regulatory language that served to protect our water supplies was eliminated in 2012. The importance attached to a well-conceived state water plan should include the establishment of tiers of use and thresholds of restraint/restriction when rainfall deficits produce obvious reductions in available resource. Since this resource has been monitized, so should it’s negligent overuse in times of relative scarcity. Establish and approve a governing structure for the existing Water Planning Council to properly and effectively oversee the best use and management of water resources in the public trust. ESTABLISH A CT STATE WATER PLAN that must unapologetically support and allow for complete transparency of utility water use and management data by the State, and more specifically, water utility exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) must be eliminated.

The final SWP should call for a thorough review of all grandfathered registrations (not just expired or unused) to ensure that active diversions do not adversely impact water levels. A statewide water plan needs to directly identify and communicate the social and financial benefits of Connecticut’s natural water resources as well as the necessity of adequate natural water resources for the subsistence and benefit of the general public and wildlife in the public trust. A CT State Water Plan must unapologetically support and allow for complete transparency of utility water use and management data by the State, and more specifically, water utility exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) must be eliminated.

The nature of the issues requires a stakeholder driven, consensus-based approach that has been used to date. Finally, it is critical that the plan be reviewed by the stakeholders and a public hearing conducted that will reflect the recommendations of the stakeholders. This hearing should provide the opportunity for the WPC to consider before proposing or supporting any legislation to ensure it fully considers and reflects the intent of the plan and does not select single issues or take information out of context to advocate for a particular position.

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The State Water Plan must reflect the findings of any existing or improved surface water resources on municipalities. Policymakers must be careful not to create any additional barriers to economic development that would undermine efforts of towns to grow their local economies and to provide much-needed help for residents by improving the availability of public water supplies to meet public health, safety, and economic development needs of residents and businesses. In particular, policymakers must ensure that the plan is not imposing requirements that will make development of new water systems overly burdensome. The state water plan must be collaborative, consensus-driven, and supported by sound science. The state water planning process must ensure that these requirements are met.

The Office of Consumer Counsel supports a comprehensive Connecticut State Water Plan. OCC endorses the plan's adaptation of water that is necessary to be elevated in our statewide outreach and education efforts as well. OCC recommends that the State Water Plan include some basic guidelines. It should include the Water Resources Council's curtailment of all substantial water supplies, which serves much of our municipalities, in a consistent, comprehensive manner.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

When considering ways to conserve potable water I ask that we all take responsibility for ensuring all the measures that the irrigation industry in Connecticut. Please do not simply ban outside watering of landscapes or restrict usage to two a week. This only serves to lower the pressure on jobs as well as means to conserve nutrients used in landscapes. Strategies to be considered to conserve nutrients used in landscapes include: 1. Require or encourage use of Smart Irrigation Technology. 2. Set Tax incentives for the purchase of Water Conserving Products. 3. Set water abatements based on lot size which could be adjusted for different drought levels and allows the consumer to prioritize which areas of their property to maintain. 4. Require flow monitoring, recording and reporting of water usage. 5. Multi-Tier Water pricing. 6. Require or encourage use of high efficiency motor or drip irrigation. 7. Require or encourage use of outdoor landscaping of reclaimed water whenever possible.

Consider that Irrigation Professionals know the ways in which to reduce outdoor water use and to ultimately cut outdoor water use without losing the knowledge base of these professionals is a waste of our resources. Regulate the use of water.

I see a big loophole for CT water utilities. The loophole is this: The Water Diversion Program regulates activities that cause, allow or result in the withdrawal from, or the alteration, modification or diminution of, the instantaneous flow of the waters of the state. The Water Diversion Program is used to conserve water that is available to be used. The Water Diversion Program does not apply to water diverted to the public. Water bottling companies sending the letter to those that are on state or county request should be率达 need review by DNR and DEEP and require a “Diversion Permit”.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Organization of applicable</th>
<th>Open-Ended Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/20/2017</td>
<td>Stephen</td>
<td>Geckeler</td>
<td>Fairfield</td>
<td>Aqua-Lawn, Inc.</td>
<td>1. at page ES-20 The Water Plan should note for #3 - “Encourage use of current and future innovations in landscape and agricultural irrigation practices.” As an irrigation professional in the state, I am aware of the large Landscape irrigation industry that has significant scientific advances in efficient irrigation practices that could and should be utilized. 2. ES-20 HK - I would like to make the Water Plan Council aware of an Irrigation Association (IA) Educational program and Elementary Curriculum that could be used as a resource: <a href="http://www.irrigation.org/IA/Resources/Elementary_School_Curriculums/IA/Resources/Elementary_School_Curriculum.aspx">http://www.irrigation.org/IA/Resources/Elementary_School_Curriculums/IA/Resources/Elementary_School_Curriculum.aspx</a> or <a href="http://ymiclassroom.com/new-plan/irrigation">http://ymiclassroom.com/new-plan/irrigation</a>. Thank you for the ability to provide some feedback to the Draft Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/2017</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Bisi</td>
<td>Glastonbury</td>
<td>Connecticut Water Pollution Abatement Assoc &amp; CT Assoc of WPCAs</td>
<td>1. Plan should make reference to and have integration with the State Plan of Conservation and Development making it a part of our policy blueprint. This would give the plan more “force of law” in a manner of speaking. This could facilitate more timely planning and zoning board designations of aquifer protection zones and appropriate allowable uses (and implicit restrictions) therein. 2. The Plan should also address excessive residential well drawdowns (such as filling large swimming pools) to help reduce rates of water consumption during droughts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/2017</td>
<td>Anthony</td>
<td>Piazza</td>
<td>Simsbury</td>
<td>Town of Simsbury WPCA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/2017</td>
<td>Frank</td>
<td>DeFelice</td>
<td>Durham</td>
<td>20171205085008.pdf</td>
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<td>Jim</td>
<td>Cordier</td>
<td>East Hartford</td>
<td>East Hartford Health Department</td>
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