



**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
79 ELM STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127**

To: Mark W. Alexander - Transportation Assistant Planning Director
DOT - Office of Environmental Planning, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington

From: David J. Fox - Senior Environmental Analyst **Telephone:** 860-424-4111

Date: February 18, 2016 **E-Mail:** david.fox@ct.gov

Subject: West Street Bridge Replacement, Middletown

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) has reviewed the Notice of Scoping for proposed replacement of the West Street bridge over the Providence and Worcester Railroad in Middletown. The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's Soil Survey does not depict any wetland soils in the immediate vicinity of the project site. If there are any undeveloped areas to be disturbed by construction or staging, it is recommended that a certified soil scientist perform a site reconnaissance in order to confirm that there are not any areas which would be regulated as wetlands or watercourses as defined by section 22a-38 (15) and (16) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), respectively.

The Natural Diversity Data Base, maintained by DEEP, contains no records of extant populations of Federally listed endangered or threatened species or species listed by the State, pursuant to section 26-306 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as endangered, threatened or special concern in the immediate project vicinity. This information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern as well as enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated into the Data Base as it becomes available. Also be advised that this is a preliminary review and not a final determination. A more detailed review may be conducted as part of any subsequent environmental permit applications submitted to DEEP for the proposed site.

It is assumed that the stormwater collection system at the project site eventually discharges to the Coginchaug River to the northwest. In order to protect listed species associated with the river, strict erosion and sediment controls should be employed during construction.

As construction commences, the discovery of hazardous materials, hazardous waste and/or contaminated soils would be a potential at this project site. It should be noted that rail lines in Connecticut have historically been contaminated with PCBs. Any waste contaminated with PCBs must be managed in accordance with state and federal PCB requirements and are subject to approval by DEEP and EPA. Additional information is also available on-line at: [PCB Program](#).

A site-specific hazardous materials management plan should be developed prior to commencement of construction and a health and safety plan for construction workers should also be prepared. The Department's standard comments concerning construction projects in urban areas are submitted for your information:

Development plans in urban areas that entail soil excavation should include a protocol for sampling and analysis of potentially contaminated soil. Soil with contaminant levels that exceed the applicable criteria of the Remediation Standard Regulations, that is not hazardous waste, is considered to be special waste. The disposal of special wastes, as defined in section 22a-209-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA), requires written authorization from the Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division prior to delivery to any solid waste disposal facility in Connecticut. If clean fill is to be segregated from waste material, there must be strict adherence to the definition of clean fill, as provided in Section 22a-209-1 of the RCSA. In addition, the regulations prohibit the disposal of more than 10 cubic yards of stumps, brush or woodchips on the site, either buried or on the surface. A fact sheet regarding disposal of special wastes and the authorization application form may be obtained at: [Special Waste Fact Sheet](#).

The Waste Engineering & Enforcement Division has issued a *General Permit for Contaminated Soil and/or Sediment Management (Staging & Transfer)* (DEP-SW-GP-001). It establishes a uniform set of environmentally protective management measures for stockpiling soils when they are generated during construction or utility installation projects where contaminated soils are typically managed (held temporarily during characterization procedures to determine a final disposition). Temporary storage of less than 1000 cubic yards of contaminated soils (which are not hazardous waste) at the excavation site does not require registration, provided that activities are conducted in accordance with the applicable conditions of the general permit. Registration is required for on-site storage of more than 1000 cubic yards for more than 45 days or transfer of more than 10 cubic yards off-site. A fact sheet describing the general permit, a copy of the general permit and registration forms are available on-line at: [Soil Management GP](#).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. If you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact me.

cc: Robert Hannon, DEEP/OPPD
Dawn McKay, DEEP/NDDB
Lori Saliby, DEEP/PCB