Town of Franklin SUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND NEU-PLANNING & STANDARDS DIVISION

Franklin Town Hall 7 Meeting House Hill Road Franklin, Connecticut

The Town of Franklin is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Date: December 12, 2013

CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Protection and land Reuse Planning and Standards Division 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106-5127 ATTN: Robert Hust

RE: Streamflow Classifications

Dear Mr. Hust

I reviewed the Franklin streamflow classification map and the methodology used to define the streamflow classifications. I noted that class four was eliminated during the process. The map indicates only streamflow class one and two in Franklin. Franklin's Plan of Conservation and Development and our Zoning Regulations has commercial/industrial areas that we have indicated that are developed or plan for future development. (See enclosed map)

I note on the classification map, in most of the areas, the streams are classed one. Were those areas taken into consideration during the classification of the streams as developed or developable commercial/industrial land? What is the impact of the present classifications to future development? I am concerned that the interpretation of the regulations by future regulators could impact the Towns plans negatively.

Before implementation of the classifications, I urge you to review the methodology used, the State and local Plans of Conservation and Development and all the local zoning regulations. As a small town, most of us do not have the resources to review such a comprehensive document and do not realize the impact it has.

In closing I ask that your Department provide outreach to local towns such as Franklin to explain why the stream classification system you have developed is not just another obstacle to any developer interested in developing property.

I strongly believe that our current planning and zoning regulations coupled with the State of Connecticut Plan of Conservation and Development identifies areas suitable for development, other areas to protect our natural resources (aquifer protection areas, conservation lands, state owned land, etc.), and still other areas suitable for residential development.

Franklin needs responsible development to provide the correct mix of residential, commercial, and industrial properties to generate taxes to cover town services.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,

Richard L. Matters First Selectman

