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February 14, 2019

Mr. James Creighton  
Water Permitting and Enforcement Division  
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

**Re: 2019 Proposed Changes to the General Permit for Discharges of Miscellaneous Sewer Compatible (MISC) Wastewater from Industrial Users**

Dear Mr. Creighton:

The Heritage Village Water Company (HVWC) owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility serving some 3,000 customers in Southbury. HVWC's wastewater system is the only private wastewater utility in Connecticut. While HVWC does not appear to meet the definition of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works as used in the proposed modified General Permit for Discharges of Miscellaneous Sewer Compatible (MISC) Wastewater from Industrial Users<sup>1</sup>, it is presumed the permit is intended to apply to HVWC. Therefore, based on the public notice issued by DEEP on January 14, 2019 for the proposed modified General Permit, HVWC has the following concerns and comments.

HVWC understands DEEP's rationale for seeking to modify the General Permit, however, HVWC must object to the modified General Permit, as proposed. Specifically, HVWC objects to DEEP's intent to delegate administrative responsibilities historically performed by the Department to the treatment facility, including the registering of dischargers, receiving and reviewing discharge monitoring reports, and enforcing effluent limits and permit conditions.

HVWC does not have the resources, fiscal or otherwise, to properly administer the General Permit, as drafted, and questions the overall appropriateness of DEEP transferring its regulatory and enforcement responsibilities to the wastewater treatment facility. Moreover, as a private

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<sup>1</sup> "Publicly Owned Treatment Works" or "POTW" means a system used for the collection, treatment and/or disposal of sewage from more than one lot as defined in section 22a-430-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and which discharges to the waters of the state and which is owned by a municipality or the state.

utility regulated by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, HVWC questions its own authority to establish and collect registration fees and enforce compliance with the General Permit. At a minimum, application of the modified General Permit would likely trigger a reopening of HVWC's last general rate case.

Additionally, the proposed modified permit contains numerous technical items that require review and/or revision. These items are thoroughly identified by the Metropolitan District Commission and others, and with this letter HVWC wishes to reinforce those technical comments. It is recommended that DEEP form a stakeholder work group to review the General Permit in detail prior to any further effort to adopt.

In summary, HVWC believes the proposed modifications to the General Permit for Discharges of Miscellaneous Sewer Compatible Wastewater from Industrial Users, while well intentioned, are ill advised and overall permit responsibility and authority should remain where it currently is – with the Department.

Please feel free to contact me at [cpatla@ctwater.com](mailto:cpatla@ctwater.com) if you have any questions or wish to discuss these comments.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Patla', written in a cursive style.

Craig J. Patla, P.E.  
Vice President, Service Delivery

Cc: John W. Betkoski, III PURA