



Connecticut Department of Public Health

**Testimony Presented Before the General Bonding Subcommittee of
the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee**

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Good morning Senator Moore, Representative Miller, Senator Witkos, Representative Floren and members of the General Bonding Subcommittee. I am Yvonne Addo, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Public Health. It is my pleasure to appear before you to report on the bond accounts within the Department of Public Health (DPH).

Through bond funds made available to the DPH we have been privileged to oversee successful projects that have expanded public health infrastructure and enhanced drinking water infrastructure for communities in Connecticut. I provide the following summary of the Department's active bond fund accounts:

Account Number 12052 (15) (PA 14-98 Sec. 46, and PA 16-4 253) reflects an authorization of \$20,000,000 for grants-in-aid, provided in the form of principal forgiveness, to eligible public water systems for eligible drinking water projects pursuant to sections 22a-475 to 22a-483 inclusive, of the general statutes, under the Public Water System Improvement Program (PWSIP). The PWSIP provides supplemental grants-in-aid through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to municipal and not-for-profit public water systems to further the public health priorities of the DPH related to the regionalization of public drinking water and the consolidation of small public water systems. The entire \$20,000,000 was approved by the State Bond Commission in May of 2017 to fund two important regionalization projects in Southeastern Connecticut. These projects strengthen the resiliency of the Southeastern area by interconnecting six small community water systems into the existing regional water supply network and providing major upgrades to existing infrastructure to improve long term sustainability within the region. The status of those projects is discussed below:

Groton Utilities:

- The water treatment plant rehabilitation project has been underway since September 2017 and is scheduled for completion in October 2020.
- Southeastern CT Water Authority (SCWA) Tower Division, Ledyard Center Division, and Barrett Park Division emergency interconnections in Ledyard have been completed.

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- SCWA Chriswood Division and Gary Farms Division interconnections in Ledyard are scheduled to start construction in April and May 2019, respectively, and be completed by May and August 2019, respectively.
- The Norwich Public Utilities interconnection along Route 12 in the Towns of Ledyard and Preston is expected to be put out to bid by the end of May 2019.

Norwich Public Utilities:

- The Deep River water treatment plant project has been underway since May 2017 and is currently scheduled to be completed in May 2019, however the project may be delayed due to potential polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) abatement issues.
- The Stony Brook water treatment plant upgrades are expected to begin construction in April 2019 and be completed by July 2020.
- The Occum water storage tank project started in December 2017, was completed in February 2019, and is currently in active service.
- The water transmission main rehabilitation project is fully designed and scheduled to go out to bid in March or April 2019.
- The water main interconnection to the Town of Sprague is fully designed and scheduled to go out to bid in March 2019.

The Department is appreciative of its receipt of general obligation (GO) bond authorizations for these important public water systems consolidation projects, which will further the resiliency and reliability of Connecticut's public drinking water infrastructure and help achieve the goals identified through the regional water supply planning process.

Thank you for your consideration of this information and your interest in the Department of Public Health's bonding initiatives and our efforts to enhance the public health infrastructure in Connecticut. We welcome any questions you may have.