



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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Phone: 860-594-3189

May 19, 2017

Mr. Don Bergmann
32 Sherwood Drive
Westport, Connecticut 06880

Dear Mr. Bergman:

Subject: Westport I-95 Bridge over Saugatuck River

Thank you for letter dated April 24, 2017 regarding drainage from the bridge carrying I-95 over the Saugatuck River. The Department of Transportation (Department) is currently developing a program to assess all of its discharges to surface water bodies, as described below.

The Department has been actively working with the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) on a *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Department of Transportation Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4 General Permit)* that covers all Department stormwater discharges. The *MS4 General Permit* will be effective July 1, 2018. The Department has, to the extent practicable, operated under a Draft Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) that was developed in accordance with a draft MS4 General Permit developed by the DEEP in 2006.

The Department is in the process of developing a SWMP to comply with the latest draft of the *MS4 General Permit*. Once developed, the Department will make a copy of the SWMP available for public comment 90 days prior to the effective date of the *MS4 General Permit*. The SWMP will outline how the Department will comply with assessing each of its discharges throughout the State. In accordance with the draft permit requirements, the Department will be responsible for developing a Priority List of discharges to assess based upon Urbanized Area, Impervious Cover, and discharges to Impaired Waters, with the highest priority being applied to those discharges that meet all of these criteria.

The Saugatuck River at the bridge location lies within an urbanized area and has an impervious cover of greater than eleven percent (11%); however, the waterbody segment in the vicinity of the I-95 bridge has not been listed by the DEEP as impaired. Based upon this, the bridge and associated discharges would not be one of the Department's high priorities for further assessment and action at this time. The Department will first address those areas that meet all three criteria, as it develops a SWMP for the approximately 3,700 miles of State-maintained roadways and nearly 4,000 State bridges.

The scope of work for the I-95 bridge over the Saugatuck River will be limited primarily to bridge deck expansion joint replacement and partial milling and replacement of the bituminous concrete wearing surface. This work is being combined with a larger roadway improvement

project in order to provide the traveling public operational and cost efficiencies in the maintenance and protection of traffic along I-95 during construction activities. The Department has reviewed the feasibility of drainage improvements on the Saugatuck River Bridge and has determined they are not practicable within the context of the very limited scope of bridge repair within the project. No repairs to other portions of the structure or drainage system are required at this time.

The Department looks forward to working with you and other interested parties during the development of the Department's SWMP.

Please contact Mr. Andy Fesenmeyer at (860) 594-3228 or via email to Andy.Fesenmeyer@ct.gov should you have any additional questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Gregory M. Dorosh, P.E.
Manager of Highway Design
Bureau of Engineering and Construction

cc: Dean Applefield, DEEP
Oswald Inglese, Jr., DEEP
Kimberly Hudak, DEEP
The Honorable James Marpe, First Selectman, Westport
The Honorable Toni Boucher, State Senator – 26th District
The Honorable Gail Lavielle, State Representative – 143rd District
The Honorable Jonathan Steinberg, State Representative – 136th District
Jack Looney, Connecticut Fund for the Environment
Andrew Minkowski, Esq., Connecticut Fund for the Environment
Rindy Higgins, Chairperson, Westport Shellfish Commission
Tony D'Andrea, Norwalk Harbor Commission
Geoffrey Steadman, Norwalk Harbor Commission

Mr. Don Bergmann

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