

Re: Sewage Disposal Working Group - Nitrogen & Environment

From Dickson, Audra < Audra. Dickson@ct.gov>

Date Thu 12/11/2025 10:33 AM

To Kolakowski, Piotr <Piotr.Kolakowski@cga.ct.gov>; Bartolomeo, Riley <Riley.Bartolomeo@cga.ct.gov>; CTNAccount <CTNaccount@cga.ct.gov>; David Potts <DPotts@geomatrixllc.com>; gmattus@crahd.net <gmattus@crahd.net>; Haas, Leah <Leah.Haas@cga.ct.gov>; jperras <jperras@hbact.org>; Kapij, Trenton <Trenton.Kapij@cga.ct.gov>; Lippencott, Adam <Adam.Lippencott@cga.ct.gov>; Mackinnon, Brianne <Brianne.Mackinnon@cga.ct.gov>; Pawlik, Matthew <Matthew.Pawlik@ct.gov>; Stuart J Fairbank <almgps-sjf@snet.net>; alicea <alicea@riversalliance.org>; melancor@dymarinc.com <melancor@dymarinc.com>; Sonia Brinckwirth <bri>brincks@guilfordct.gov>

Good morning,

To follow up on yesterday's discussion, I want to highlight the no-cost, internal modernization initiatives my teams are proactively implementing across our programs to significantly enhance user experience and efficiency.

Elevating the UIC Program: The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program is a critical tool for addressing the State's housing challenges. We are actively elevating this program by developing robust internal tools and systems within our current budget to advance sustainable development and economic success.

In response to historical challenges and staff changes, the UIC team has already begun comprehensive planning:

- Analyzing data and reviewing business processes.
- Assessing compliance to guide more informed future development.

Streamlining and Standardizing Submittals: We are developing standardized, user-friendly "cookie-cutter" calculators and updating design manuals. The goal is to unify submittals across programs, enabling 'fast-track' permitting. The planned updates are specifically designed to address this bottleneck and will ensure consistent decision-making, clearer expectations, and greater efficiency, providing substantial long-term benefits to both the program and applicants.

Note on Implementation: Please be advised that achieving these planned efficiencies is a highly labor-intensive undertaking. Given the specialized nature of this work and the constraints of our dedicated internal team of 3 FTEs, we are carefully balancing immediate program need (repairs & replacements to protect human health) with development goals. Based on our current projections, maintaining static staffing levels will allow us to meet our internal efficiency targets, but these gains are currently projected to yield a maximum of 30 to 40% improvement in application processing time.

Strategic Focus on Application Quality: Improvements within and across the division were selected following a rigorous internal review of our business processes. This review conclusively identified incomplete and deficient applications as the primary challenge resulting in significant delays and increased application processing time (Commissioners 20by26 Goals - https://portal.ct.gov/deep/about/20by26/20by26-initiative).

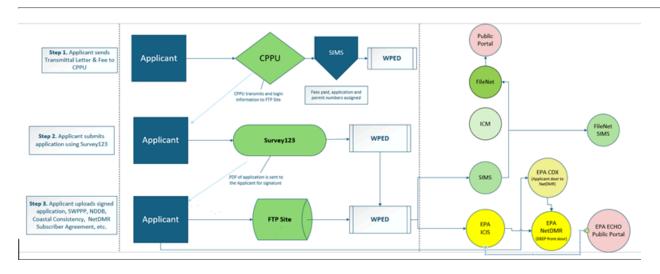
Proven Success: Pretreatment Program: We achieved a significant win with the Pretreatment Program website modernization (https://portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/industrial-wastewater/pretreatment-program).

This update included enhanced online applications and automated capture of application and spatial data—directly addressing data management needs. These tools were developed in-house with existing resources (no external contracts or added costs), simplifying the user experience and improving data quality, which meets several of the Commissioners' 20by26 goals.

Pilot Program: Commercial Stormwater: We are successfully piloting a similar framework with the Commercial Stormwater Program. The new online application, which uses ESRI Survey 123 (https://survey123.arcgis.com/) to capture application and spatial data, went live on December 1st (https://portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/stormwater/commercial-stormwater)

The significant change in this process helps us improve consistency, reduce processing time, and support better decision-making.

The following diagram illustrates the new stormwater workflow, which includes the federally required data systems under the eRule (40 CFR 127- under the CWA) established to require permittees to electronically report monitoring data to us in NeTDMR.



Our proactive, internal work is already delivering significant service improvements without new costs, laying the groundwork for many of the efficiency goals discussed. I'm happy to provide more information about these advancements and the work underway in the other program areas—if you're interested.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regard,

Audra Dickson
Director
Water Permitting & Enforcement Division
Materials Management & Compliance Assurance Bureau

Environmental Quality Branch Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

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From: Kolakowski, Piotr

Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 10:55 AM

To: Kolakowski, Piotr < Piotr. Kolakowski@cga.ct.gov>; Dickson, Audra < Audra. Dickson@ct.gov>; Bartolomeo, Riley

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Subject: Sewage Disposal Working Group - Nitrogen & Environment

When: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 10:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Where: https://zoom.us/j/94196050996?pwd=jxZ6BWJPLFtGtUbsaxZEzAceMHqHrb.1

Good morning,

Please find attached the agenda for tomorrow's meeting.

See ZOOM invite below.

Sincerely,

Piotr Kolakowski **Public Health Committee Clerk**

Connecticut General Assembly Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue, Room 3000 Hartford, CT 06106 860-240-0569

Piotr Kolakowski is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/94196050996?pwd=jxZ6BWJPLFtGtUbsaxZEzAceMHqHrb.1

Meeting ID: 941 9605 0996

Passcode: 915228

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- +13126266799,,94196050996# US (Chicago)

Join instructions

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