



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the
Commissioner

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Public Hearing – March 14, 2011 Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Acting Commissioner James P. Redeker Department of Transportation

S.B. 1115 - An Act Concerning the Regulation of Certain Low Emission Vehicles, Ionizing Radiation and Stream Channel Encroachment Lines by the Department Of Environmental Protection.

The Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) supports the Department of Environmental Protection's (CTDEP) proposal in S.B. 1115 to the repeal of the Stream Channel Encroachment Line (SCEL) program.

Resources that are protected under this program are already regulated by other permitting programs administered by CTDEP Inland Water Resources Division (IWRD). State projects proposed by ConnDOT all require approval under the Flood Management Certification process, which addresses flooding concerns and flood hazards. Other environmental aspects that would be reviewed under the SCEL program are also already regulated under the Inland Wetland and Watercourses permitting program, as well as on the Federal level, via the Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 process.

Elimination of this program allows for staff within ConnDOT to be allocated to other necessary duties while still ensuring the proper protection of water and natural resources in the State. S.B. 1115 also eliminates a paperwork burden on both of the state agencies, municipalities, as well as private property owners.

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department of Transportation, at (860) 594-3013.