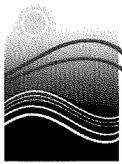


# **Section 1**

## **Commissioner's Letter**



Connecticut Department of

ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

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May 10, 2012

Senator Andrew W. Roraback  
Representative Paul Davis  
Regulation Review Committee, Room 011  
State Capitol  
Hartford, CT 06106

**RE: Proposal to Amend the Boating Safety Regulations**

Dear Senator Roraback and Representative Davis:

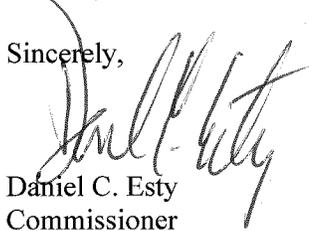
Pursuant to section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I submit for your consideration and approval the enclosed proposal which amends the boating safety regulations found at Section 15-121-B15a of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies. The proposal restricts vessels 26 feet in length or greater from Candlewood Lake pursuant to the requirements of Special Act 10-3. Implementation of this regulation will have the short term effect of capping the number of oversized vessels on Candlewood Lake, and ending the general escalation of vessel size that is taking place on the lake. The long term effect will be to *decrease* user conflict and *increase* boating safety on the lake, as the number of oversized vessels is *reduced* over time as vessels age and are removed from service.

As part of this proposed regulation, authorization to operate will be given to oversized vessels that have historically been used on Candlewood Lake prior to the effective date of the proposed regulation, and for the lifetime of a given vessel. Accommodation is also made for oversized commercial and government vessels, and vessels that have the function of maintaining the quality of the lake environment. While there is an anticipated impact to small business, measures protective of business have been included.

The Department first published public notice of this proposal in the Connecticut Law Journal on November 29, 2011. The Department held a public hearing on January 4, 2012 and accepted public comment until January 27, 2012. As detailed in the Hearing Officer's Report (included here as Section 7), the Department revised the proposal based on these comments.

If there are any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Robert LaFrance, the Department's Legislative Liaison, at 860-424-3401 (office) or 860-622-1797 (cell). Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Daniel C. Esty  
Commissioner

DCE/TFD/tfd  
Enclosures

cc: Robert LaFrance