

**TESTIMONY
SUSAN SUHANOVSKY
PRESIDENT
TORRINGTON WATER COMPANY
FEBRUARY 7, 2013**

RE: SUPPORT – SB-807, Water Conservation

My name is Susan M. Suhanovsky. I am the President of The Torrington Water Company, (the "Company"). My business address is 277 Norfolk Rd., Torrington, CT

The Torrington Water Company is a privately held, investor-owned, public service water company. The Company serves approximately 40,000 people in five towns.

I support the provisions in SB-807 which will assist water utilities in pursuing opportunities to promote water conservation measures. Under the current ratemaking structure, water companies are penalized for efforts to reduce water and energy consumption. The provisions in SB-807 will address this by ensuring that the rates charged when conservation is achieved meet the established revenue requirements to recover our operating costs and maintain system viability.

These rates may include rate designs that promote conservation such as inclining block rates, seasonal, peak period or drought rates, multiyear rate plans, measures to reduce system water losses, and funds for consumer programs to promote conservation through education and incentives or rebates for retrofits with water efficient fixtures and appliances.

The bill also includes provisions that expand WICA eligible projects to include the purchase of energy efficient equipment or investments in renewable energy supplies and capital improvements necessary to achieve compliance with stream flow regulations. WICA is an existing ratemaking tool authorized by the legislature in 2007 that allows for interim rate adjustments for PURA regulated companies for eligible projects that improve system reliability, water quality and reduce water loss through main breaks and leaks. We have had this program in place for three years and have seen our overall "unaccounted for" water percentage drop as we replace small old (over 100 years old) mains.

We believe these changes will help mitigate the need and frequency of larger general rate cases and will ensure that we will be able to realize our allowed revenue while promoting conservation