



Connecticut Department of
**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing – March 15, 2013
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Daniel C. Esty
Presented By Deputy Commissioner Macky McCleary

Raised House Bill No. 6537 – AAC WATER QUALITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Thank you for the opportunity to provide background information regarding Raised House Bill No. 6537 – An Act Concerning Water Quality and the University of Connecticut. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) does not take a stance regarding this bill but offers factual information regarding the status of the University of Connecticut's aquifer mapping.

Section 2 of the proposed bill requires the University of Connecticut (UConn) to develop Level B and Level A mapping of all areas of contribution and recharge areas for its existing wells located in stratified drift.

There are four key elements of the Aquifer Protection Area Program Implementation:

1. Mapping of the aquifer protection area;
2. DEEP approval of mapping;
3. Municipalities delineate approved mapping (aquifer protection area boundary); and
4. Municipalities adopt aquifer protection area regulations for the mapped boundary area.

In regard to UConn both the Fenton River Well Field and the Willimantic River Well Field have been mapped to Level A standards, approved by DEEP, and delineated on the zoning maps for the Towns of Mansfield, Willington and Coventry. The municipal aquifer protection areas regulations have been approved by DEEP and adopted by each town. The adopted maps are available on the web at http://cteco.uconn.edu/map_catalog/maps/town/apasmall/Mansfield_apa.pdf.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison Robert LaFrance at (860) 424-3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov.