



Testimony  
Elizabeth Gara  
Connecticut Water Works Association  
Before the Transportation Committee  
February 28, 2014

The Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) supports HB-5288, AN ACT CONCERNING CHEMICAL ROAD TREATMENTS.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to conduct an analysis of the corrosive effects of chemical road treatments on vehicles, infrastructure and the environment.

Contaminants from chemical road treatments or road salt may compromise water quality by entering water resources through storm drains, runoff or by infiltration to groundwater. This is an issue that warrants additional study in addition to recommendations to better manage road salt applications to minimize the impact on water quality and the environment. We therefore request that the scope of the study to be broadened to include water resources.

In addition, public water suppliers are increasingly concerned about the corrosive impact of chemical road treatments on water system infrastructure, including distribution pipes, intake valves, fire hydrants and other critical system components. We therefore request that the scope of the study be revised to specify water system infrastructure.

In addition, in evaluating any alternative road treatment techniques and products, we request that the evaluation include any potential impact on water quality or infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

*The Connecticut Water Works Association, Inc. (CWWA) is an association of private, municipal and regional public water supply utilities serving more than 500,000 customers, or population of about 2½ million people, located throughout Connecticut.*