

State Water Plan Policy Subcommittee
August 17, 2015
3:00 in Conference Room 4B, 79 Elm Street, Hartford
Final Summary

Attendees: Mike O'Neill, Corinne Fitting, Tony Mitchell, John Hudak, Martha Smith, Bob Moore, George Logan, David Radka, Beth Barton, Elin Katz, Ryan Tetreault, Ellen Blaschinski, Margaret Miner, Matt Pafford, Maureen Westbrook, Larry Bingaman, Robert Young, Betsey Wingfield

Meeting started with a report on the August 4, 2016 Water Planning Council Meeting. Items mentioned included WPC Op-ed, support of Site-specific Water Use Data System proposal for submittal to Department of Housing for Sandy Planning funds, project plan handed out by Tom Callahan, draft charges to subcommittees, meeting schedule for rest of year (Steering Committee 9/1/15 and 11/3/15 at 1:30 at DEEP), workgroup report outs, and handout showing membership on groups.

Bob Moore handed out a document prepared by DEEP titled "The Fundamental Questions to be addressed in the state Water Plan are as follows" (copy attached) which generated discussion. The questions were developed in response to a question that was asked at the Water Planning Council concerning what we were trying to accomplish with a state water plan.

Bob Moore lead a discussion of basic policy issues regarding the plan as detailed in the agenda. The linkage to the State Plan of Conservation and Development was stressed by many. The options for enforceability of the plan generated spirited discussion. The group coalesced around the following:

- 1) The long term planning horizon for the water plan should be 25 years and the document should be kept current and updated every 5 years to benchmark changes.
- 2) The Water Planning Council is responsible for developing the water plan and should be responsible for updating it every 5 years.
- 3) The water plan should generally be a guidance document and include recommendations for necessary changes to existing laws and regulations and direction where needed.

In addition, a request should be made to the state agencies for information about what data exists or that question should be sent to the Technical Subcommittee.

The subcommittee discussed the draft charge from the Water Planning Council which was attached to the agenda and it will be a continuing discussion item.

It was agreed that Larry Bingaman would report back at the Steering Committee on September 1, 2015 as Bob Moore will not be in attendance.

The group agreed that it would meet again in late September or early October. Betsey Wingfield will send out a doodle poll.

