

Mr. Robert Hust
Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

December 31, 2013

Re: Proposed Streamflow Classification
Southeast Coastal, Pawcatuck & Thames Major River Basins

Dear Mr. Hust:

This letter provides Aquarion Water Company's comments on the proposed streamflow classifications for the above basins. The letter provides comment on a specific stream segment whose classification is impacted by Aquarion's sources of supply.

Copps Brook (Segment 108,001,891) – This segment is immediately upstream of Aquarion's Deans Mill Reservoir and adjacent to the Copps Well. Copps Well is an existing emergency source of supply. It is a gravel packed well constructed in 1957 and has a registered diversion capacity of 0.72 mgd. As currently configured the well is not connected to the distribution system but can be used during droughts to supplement streamflow entering the reservoir. The well is also considered a potential future source of supply for Aquarion's Mystic System. We believe that our investment in the construction and maintenance of Copps Well and its diversion registration is a significant investment and that the adjacent stream segment should therefore be classified as Class 3 rather than Class 1 as proposed.

It is also noted that the initial classification methodology indicates that the majority of stream segments in these three major basins are free flowing. We are not familiar enough with the basins to comment on how this reflects actual conditions in the field, but have worked with CWWA to review the methodology and support the comments that they have provided the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposed classifications. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our comments or if we can be of any help as you develop proposed classifications for the remaining major basins.

Sincerely,



John P. Walsh, P.E.
Vice President, Operations