

## Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the **Town of Cornwall under Part 58** has conducted an evaluation as required by **Executive Order 11988**, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the **Community Project Funding (CPF) Grants** under **HUD grant B-22-CP-CT-018**. The proposed project(s) is located at **406 Sharon Goshen Turnpike** in **West Cornwall, Litchfield County**. The project includes the establishment of a wastewater treatment facility that will be constructed at **406 Sharon Goshen Turnpike** on a small flat track of land. The wastewater treatment facility will service twenty parcels in the **Village of West Cornwall**. Untreated wastewater will be pumped to the wastewater treatment facility building through six-inch diameter PVC piping installed below the existing town roadways. Lateral sewage lines will be connected to each parcel from the main. Grinders will be installed in line with the lateral piping and will masticate sewage prior to pumping to the treatment facility. The sewage, once received at the sewage facility, will undergo biological treatment using a membrane aerator biofilm reactor (MABF) process resulting in an effluent suitable for discharge into the Housatonic River. An effluent discharge pipe will be co-locating in the pipe trench with the sewer main piping but will extend to the Housatonic River to its discharge location. The treatment facility will replace existing individual septic systems that do not meet current health codes and are potentially susceptible to leaching of untreated wastewater to the Housatonic River and potable well water supply in the Village area. The sewer piping system will be installed under existing public roadways and within previously disturbed land areas of the individual parcels. The project costs will be encumbered by the Town through grants, including a \$3,000,000 federal community projects grant, and capital funding.

The **Town of Cornwall** has considered alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: **The treatment plant must be located where it is proposed due to lack of other sites. A site was considered near the Housatonic River, but it was rejected due to flooding concerns. As the treated effluent is to be discharged into the river, a small amount of discharge piping must be located in the floodplain. Other treatment options were explored including upgrading existing septic systems and an in-ground system. These options were rejected as they would not address potential pollution of the river (existing system) or require more land than is available (in ground system). Industry standard measures of erosion and sedimentation control will be taken in consultation with the Cornwall Inland Wetlands Commission. The environmental impact of construction will be temporary and minimal as work will be done on previously disturbed ground. The project will promote cultural values by allowing more facilities and buildings in West Cornwall to be used by residents and visitors for recreational and educational purposes. The State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has endorsed this project.**

**The Town of Cornwall** has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the **floodplain** and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance

with steps 3 through 6 of **Executive Order 11988**, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in **floodplains** and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about **floodplains** can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in **floodplains**, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by **The Town of Cornwall** at the following address on or before **January 11, 2024: Town of Cornwall, PO Box 97, 24 Pine Street, Cornwall, CT 06753** and **860-672-4959**, Attention: **Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman**. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from **9:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:00pm Monday-Thursday at 24 Pine Street and online at and [www.cornwallct.org](http://www.cornwallct.org)** . Comments may also be submitted via email at **selectmen@cornwallct.gov**.

**Date:** 1/3/2024