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# CITY OF DANBURY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
155 DEER HILL AVENUE  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

MARK D. BOUGHTON  
MAYOR

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March 22, 2012

Hon. Members of the City Council  
155 Deer Hill Avenue  
Danbury, CT 06810

Re: Danbury Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Phosphorous Discharge

Dear Council members:

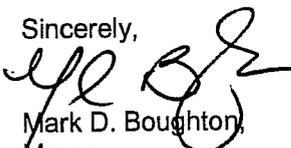
I am asking you to ratify City efforts to challenge federal Environmental Protection Agency and CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to mandate a significant and costly upgrade of our Waste Water Treatment Plant to drastically reduce phosphorous levels into the Still and Housatonic Rivers. The attached resolution further explains what is occurring and what we need to do.

Due to the exigencies of our circumstances and the time lines that we have been facing, together with the risks of unbearable financial costs, certain preliminary steps have already been taken to engage a government relations professional and cooperate with other municipalities and officials to examine options to address and challenge these strict requirements. It is my intention and that of the officials of the Public Works Department and others to inform you of these steps and to obtain your authorization for us to combine with others, engage such professional assistance as may be required and to work quickly to address these potential mandates in such ways as are most efficient and effective for Danbury.

While we are optimistic that doing this will provide us with the best and perhaps only chance to overturn these requirements or to obtain reconsideration of them, we are also realistic that some, at least limited measures will likely be required. We are simply attempting to avoid the most onerous demands on our systems and budgets.

Therefore, please adopt the attached resolution, so that we may continue those measures and actions that are ongoing, to deal with this critical issue. I ask that you do not send this to a committee, as any time delay would harm our efforts at the present time. Do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Boughton,  
Mayor

Attachment

cc: Antonio Iadarola, P.E., Director of Public Works  
David St. Hilaire, Director of Finance  
Laszlo L. Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Dan Casagrande, Esquire



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

\_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 2012

**RESOLVED** BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANBURY

**WHEREAS**, the City of Danbury owns a Wastewater Treatment Plant ("WWTP") that treats and handles wastewater and sewage from Danbury as well as some surrounding communities; and

**WHEREAS**, phosphorous is a by-product of these operations and is deposited into rivers and streams in miniscule amounts as permitted, and, as is the case with many municipalities that have or operate a WWTP is regulated by the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as well as the federal Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and

**WHEREAS**, the CTDEEP (then the CTDEP) issued a voluntary Consent Order to the City in 2008 to reduce the amount of phosphorous by taking steps and instituting measures including commissioning a phosphorous study to address the DEEP requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, certain measures have been taken in accordance with such Order: and

**WHEREAS**, recently the EPA has adopted regulations that further reduce the allowable phosphorous discharge, which regulations would be extremely costly, and in the view of many, unnecessary; and

**WHEREAS**, full compliance with such mandates would require a WWTP upgrade at substantial cost and expense, resulting in significant outlay to Danbury as well as a number of other users and similarly placed municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Danbury wishes to take certain steps to address or challenge such requirements, including retaining a government relations professional/lobbyist, joining with other affected municipalities to challenge requirements and engaging in discussions and filings in efforts to address the onerous requirements.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Mayor Mark D. Boughton and the City Council proceed to engage in such cooperative efforts with other municipalities and officials to examine, challenge, review and participate in any and all efforts to address federal or State consent orders or other requirements regarding WWTC upgrade or expenditure related to phosphorous discharge, and to execute such agreements and documents that facilitate this effort.