

**DATE:** February 6, 2017

Please find below a compilation of 16 questions received by DEEP regarding RFP# DEEP-WPLR-2017LISN and the responses to those questions:

- 1) The RFP (page 2) indicates that “the area of study will include the embayment watersheds included in the Comparative Analysis and Model Development for Determining the Susceptibility to Eutrophication of Long Island Sound Embayments.” Is the area where development of an OWTS inventory, modeling/estimation of nitrogen loading, identification of environmentally sensitive OWTS settings, etc. is desired limited to embayment watersheds in Connecticut (81 listed embayments), or is it intended to include all 116 embayments included in the Comparative Analysis report?

*The area of study includes all embayment watersheds located entirely within CT, as well as the CT portion of the Pawcatuck and Byram River watersheds. There are 82 watersheds in total.*

- 2) Are any specifics available regarding the details of the “OWTS information available from DEEP, CT Department of Public Health (DPH), and local and regional health departments” listed in the RFP? For example, do existing OWTS permitting databases from DEEP, DPH, and local/regional health departments include details such as design flow and system components, or are they primarily permit process tracking databases?

*DEEP, CT DPH and local health departments/districts maintain paper files containing septic system applications, approvals and as-built information documenting design flow, system components and their locations. In addition, there are databases like Septic Search that provide general information such as system type, installation date and address.*

- 3) How much detail regarding OWTS is available in database format?

*The OWTS databases known to DEEP are Septic Search, which is mentioned in response to Question 2, and EPA’s Net DMR system that receives discharge monitoring data electronically reported by a few of the DEEP permitted large-scale system permittees.*

- 4) Is there an available database of building locations (e.g., E911 points) for the state?

*We are not aware of a statewide database of building locations. However the local regional Council of Governments and municipalities may have this information.*

- 5) This is a very ambitious schedule for completion of the scope set forth in the RFP, approximately how long is the contractor selection and contracting process anticipated to last? Is there compliance schedule driving this schedule?

*Our goal is to have a contractor selected for this project and a contract executed by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The schedule is driving by the availability grant funds for this project.*

- 6) The RFP states that the proposal must be hand delivered. Can this be accomplished by a delivery service such as FedEx or UPS?

*Yes*

- 7) The RFP states that there is a 15 page limit for the proposal. Can you confirm the following materials are NOT considered within the 15 page limit? 1) Resumes for the project team, 2) Project Descriptions demonstrating relevant experience, 3) summaries of example projects, and 4) SEEC Form 10?

*The 15 page limit is for the project proposal only. All other materials are not included in the 15 page limit.*

- 8) Is the cost proposal a separate document and therefore not part of the 15 page limit? Should it be sealed separately from the technical proposal?

*The cost proposal can be a separate document and not part of the 15 page project proposal limit. The cost proposal should be included in the same package as all other documents.*

- 9) Do you want actual letters of reference from recent clients? Section 2(e) Required Qualifications asks for a list of three references. Section 5.C asks for letters of

reference. Can you please clarify? Typically, information on references is provided for the client to inquire about the firm's experience from other recent clients and a letter of reference is not provided.

*A list of three references with contact information is sufficient*

- 10) The RFP asks for sample project summaries. Can you clarify what type of summary you would like? Is it a copy of a final report or deliverable, or a description of the work that was conducted?

*Please provide a description of the project including size, scope, outcome and budget. Submitting a final reports is not necessary*

- 11) Please indicate whether the following information about the existing onsite systems and areas targeted by the RFP is available to the best of your knowledge. What, if any, of this information will be provided by CT DEEP at the start of the project?
- a. Spatial identification of parcels suspected or confirmed to be served by onsite systems, or ideally the specific locations of onsite systems/drainfields.
  - b. System characteristics: for example, system type, system age, system condition, design/actual flow rates.
  - c. Study area characteristics: for example, areas known or suspected to be onsite system malfunction hotspots, surface or groundwater quality data, locations of sewer collection systems.

*DEEP information includes statewide digital mapping of land use/land cover, population density, and of sewerred, unsewered and planned service areas. DEEP also has spatial information available identifying areas served by individual septic systems for a limited number of towns, including the general characteristics associated with these systems and the general site conditions where these systems are located. DEEP has very limited parcel specific locations. It is expected that most system characteristics such as system type, system age, system condition, flow rates, and areas known or suspected to be onsite system malfunction hotspots will be estimated from these identified information sources. This information can be made available for review. Also refer to DEEP's response to question 12 below.*

- 12) Please indicate the specific spatial area envisioned to be included in the study (e.g., the criteria for inclusion or actual boundaries if known), as well as the number of onsite systems within the area, if known.

*As specified on page 2 of the RFP, “the area of study will include the embayment watersheds included in the Comparative Analysis and Model Development for Determining the Susceptibility to Eutrophication of Long Island Sound Embayments”. A spatial delineation of the area is included in figure 3 of the Comparative Analysis and Model Development for Determining the Susceptibility to Eutrophication of Long Island Sound Embayments report (Vaudrey 2015 Draft). Please refer to DEEP’s response to question 1 above for clarity regarding the number of watershed embayments included within the study area.*

*This project scope has been developed to better determine the number of onsite wastewater treatment systems located within the unsewered areas of the embayment watersheds using a variety of resources. Such resources include but are not limited to population estimates, land use/land cover mapping, map of sewer/unsewered areas, municipal files maintained by DEEP and DPH, and records at local health districts (see 1. Outline of Work – first bulleted item).*

- 13) Will large onsite systems (e.g., for commercial or institutional establishments) and cluster/small community soil-discharging systems also be included this study?

*Proposals should include consideration of large OWTS as well as domestic OWTS*

- 14) Will this study include both subsurface soil discharging systems and surface soil discharging systems (e.g., spray irrigation) or only the former? Will any surface water discharging systems be included?

*The study is limited to subsurface discharge systems.*

- 15) For subsurface discharges, will DEEP provide a listing of all permitted entities covered by the General Permit, any with individual permits, and access to permit applications?

*DEEP can provide lists of DEEP permitted facilities and provide access to associated permit applications.*

- 16) If any monitoring data from these systems has been collected, will this be available?

*Most of the monitoring data reported to DEEP by permittees is submitted in hard-copy and would be available for review. DEEP has groundwater monitoring data available for*

*areas served by septic systems for a limited number of towns. This information can be made available for review.*