



## STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 22a-6(h) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES

Pursuant to the provisions of section 22a-6(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is authorized to adopt regulations pertaining to activities for which the federal government has adopted standards or procedures. At the time of public notice, the Commissioner must clearly distinguish all provisions of a regulatory proposal that differ from applicable federal standards or procedures (i.e., federal standards and procedures that apply to the same persons regulated by the proposed state regulation). The Commissioner must distinguish any such provisions either on the face of such proposed regulation or through supplemental documentation accompanying the proposed regulation. In addition, the Commissioner must provide an explanation for all such provisions in the regulation-making record required under CGS Title 4, Chapter 54 and make such explanation publicly available at the time of the publication of the notice of intent required under CGS section 4-168.

In accordance with the requirements of CGS section 22a-6(h), the following statement is entered into the public administrative record in the matter of the proposals to amend sections 23-65h-1(g), 23-65h-1(l), 23-65h-1(o), 23-65h-1(q), 23-65h-1(r), and 23-65h-1(s) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA):

The main purpose of these proposals is to

- 1) Comply with Public Act No. 22-143 which authorized applicants who are described in subsection 6 of Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 23-65h to obtain licensure without receiving a passing grade on a written examination.
- 2) Comply with Public Act No. 22-143 which authorized a 60-day extension for expired forest practitioner certifications without the need to reexamine. A fee to exercise this privilege is required to be set in regulation. The CT Forest Practices Advisory Board recommends, and the Forestry Division concurs, this fee should be one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Subsection (l) of Section 23-65h-1.
- 3) Comply with Public Act No. 22-143 which simplified obtaining continuing education units (CEUs), allowing the total required CEUs for the certification period be obtained throughout the four-year certification period rather than obtaining one-half of the CEUs in the first two-year period and the second half during years three and four. Regulation script also needs to be updated to reflect this statutory change. Subsection (o) of Section 23-65h-1.
- 4) Remove specified payment method language (check or money order) allowing other forms of payment, such as electronic payment, to be utilized in the future. Subsections (r) and (s) of Section 23-65h-1.

No Federal law regulates the Certification of Forest Practitioners as regulated by the proposed revisions to RCSA sections 23-65h-1(g), 23-65h-1(l), 23-65h-1(o), 23-65h-1(q), 23-65h-1(s), and 23-65h-1(s).

In summary, the requirements of the proposal are an activity that is not regulated by the Federal government.

Nicholas T. Zito

March 1, 2023

Date