

Monthly GU & WPCA Pre-Meeting -July 2026

Date: July. 16, 2026

Time: 2-3 pm

Location: GU Operations Conference Room

In Attendance: Ledyard WPCA Chair: Ed Lynch, Groton Utilities Water: Mike Weber, Joe Pratt, Vince Bartelli, Steve Dietrich, Doug LaFontaine, Kate Blacker, Joe Allyn

1. Status of Ledyard **Hydraulic Model** (Doug LaFontaine, Manager Water Engineering)
 - a. Wright Pierce completed Fire Flows. Water Age & Quality Analysis is in progress. GU will email the WPCA Commissioners when complete
2. **Water Quality** Discussion (Steve Dietrich, Water Quality Manager)
 - a. Current considerations –
 - i. Notice of Violation (NOV) letter (Q2 2025 TTHMs, in Village Dr. neighborhood) will be sent to Ledyard Center residents shortly (Total trihalomethanes, disinfection by-products); The notice was also included in the 2025 Ledyard Center Annual Water Quality Report (CCR) issued recently.
 - ii. Fluoride (water treatment plant chemical) delivery delay, which has caused the GU WTP to temporarily reduce the fluoride dose until the delivery is received.
 - b. Upcoming Regulations 2031– relating to Chlorine & THM's: DPH has shared, most recently at the March 2026 ATCAVE conference, that water companies will need to be in compliance with revisions to the Microbial/Disinfection By Products Rule **by** 2031; regulations currently state that a detectable residual must be maintained throughout a water system. The future regulation is anticipated to require a minimum free chlorine residual of 0.2 mg/L throughout a water system. This change has the potential to negatively impact THM formation at the far ends of both the Gales Ferry and Ledyard Center systems. GU recommends WPCA and Mayor consider an Engineering Study of both water systems to determine best approaches for strategies to balance Chlorine residuals with THMs. With the known challenges of water age/quality and residuals currently in both Ledyard systems, GU recommends starting these efforts (and their budgetary considerations) as soon as possible. Ed asked if chlorine injection stations would be helpful – Steve indicated that the crux of this new regulation will pose a challenge of balance of increased chlorine residual required by DPH but while still managing to keep THMs (disinfection by-products) within the established limits; an engineering study will be best to address this for the specific nature of each consecutive system. GU will provide hydraulic model information. It was later noted in discussion that interconnection with SWCA (increased water usage) would be beneficial to reduce water age.

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- c. GU has vendor product demonstration of automatic flushing and blow-off equipment scheduled for early August to evaluate potential implementation. Wright-Pierce Engineers to consult based on Hydraulic Modeling results – TBD.
- 3. Site Plan Review Process with Ledyard Planning & Zoning
 - a. 740 Colonel Ledyard Highway – **Ledyard Center LLC** (Joe Allyn) -7/16/26
Contractor proceeded without approval, installing water mains, also operated system valving to cut into the water main. GU notified after the 200+ feet of 8” pipe installed. At Ed’s request, GU will document the events and GU is in communication with contractor about addressing this situation.
 - i. Ed will reach out to Planning and Zoning with an update and questions about their approvals
 - b. Habitat for Humanity – **ECHO Homes** – no update
 - c. 1947 Center Groton Road - **EG Shoreline Homes** (Kate)
 - i. Meter Location -revised plan shows individual services, rather than a utility cabinet outside the building
 - 1. Recommendation for WPCA to consider the upcoming Cost of 72 Residential Meters (for future WPCA budgeting)
- 4. Water Main Breaks – (Vince Bartelli)
 - i. Paper Map of Water Main Breaks in Highlands provided at WPCA’s request re: Water Main Replacement Planning Efforts with Steve Maslin
 - ii. GU completed Muster Lane Blow-off repair complete
 - iii. No water main breaks this month
- 5. Lead Service Line Project – 2027 DPH/EPA Deadline approaching;
 - a. Ed indicated that Town funding was recently approved. He will coordinate with Arcadis to proceed.
 - i. Ed will request Arcadis contact CT DPH about Ledyard’s grant application for LSLI project funding
- 6. CBYD Sewer Area – Doug LaFontaine Resent email on 7/16/26 to Steve Banks with information on signing up for separate CBYD Account for Sewer Service Area. Offered GU assistance with any mapping that is required by CBYD for setting up service territory boundary polyline.
 - a. Ed shared the entire Highlands neighborhood sewer main system will be relined in effort to increase system capacity
 - b. Question of whether WPCA will participate in UCONN’s PFAS wastewater study (GU was contacted) Per Steve Banks on 7/17/26: To his knowledge they have not been contacted regarding this.
- 7. Exclusive Water Service Area – Ed indicated that SCWA would like to meet with GU & Ledyard to discuss water rates and provisions, etc. Ed will facilitate meeting.