

Northwestern CT/Litchfield Hills Public Safety Task Force

Barkhamsted-Canaan-Colebrook-Cornwall-Goshen-Hartland-Harwinton-Kent-Litchfield-Morris
New Hartford-Norfolk-North Canaan-Roxbury-Salisbury-Sharon-Torrington-Warren-Washington-Winchester

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Torrington Fire Chief John Field, Chairman

September 27, 2011

Senator Joan Hartley
Representative Stephen Dargan
Co-Chairs, Public Safety Committee

Senator John Fonfara
Representative Vickie Orsini Nardello
Co-Chairs, Energy and Technology Committee

Senator Steve Cassano
Representative Linda Gentile
Co-Chairs, Planning and Development Committee

RE: Investigation of Storm Irene Response

Dear Senators and Representatives:

The attached information is being provided for your information and consideration relative to your investigation of the response to Storm Irene.

On May 19, 2010 a group of local officials from municipalities in northwestern Connecticut met with representative of CL&P to ask that CL&P consider the following proposals during future storm events:

- 1) That CL&P send a representative to Litchfield County Dispatch (LCD) to coordinate E-911 calls and requests for "make-safe" crews
- 2) That CL&P dedicate a "make-safe" crew to any town declaring a local state of emergency, to work with the local public works crew to open roads

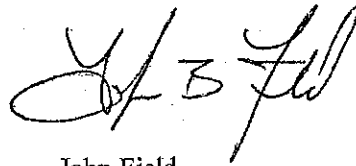
Local officials present at this meeting included James Farkus, President of LCD, James O'Leary, Emergency Management Director (EMD) for the Town of Goshen, Richard Byrne, EMD for the Town of Norfolk and Tom O'Hare, EMD for Town of Litchfield. Also present was Paul Gibb, a consultant for the Public Safety Task Force, which includes representatives from 20 municipalities in northwestern, CT. The Public Safety Task Force authorized the presentation of the above proposals to CL&P.

The attached letter from Alan Carey of CL&P, dated June 25, 2010 was sent in reply to the proposals set forth at the May 19, 2010 meeting. CL&P agreed to accommodate the first proposal but would not commit to accommodating the second. Members of the Public Safety Task Force delegation that met with CL&P on May 19, 2010 continue to believe that dedicating a make-safe crew to a municipality during a declared state of emergency would facilitate make safe operations while giving local officials control over the prioritization road openings.

If you have any questions regarding the attached correspondence please feel free to contact Paul Gibb, Public Safety Task force Program Coordinator at 860-459-6801 or email paulgibb@optonline.net.

Thank you for your important investigation of the response to Storm Irene.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. B. Field', written in a cursive style.

John Field
Chief
City of Torrington Fire Department
Chairman, Public Safety Task Force
Chairman, Region 5 Regional
Emergency Planning Team