

United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Connecticut Water Science Center 101 Pitkin Street East Hartford, CT 06108

David A. Sawicki State Traffic Commission 2800 Berlin Turnpike P.O. Box 317546 Newington, CT 06131-7546

Dear Mr. Sawicki,

December 29, 2008

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is requesting an exemption from the weight restriction on Route 15 (Merritt Parkway/Wilbur Cross Parkway). This request is for a mobile water-quality laboritory with U.S. Government license plates. Access is needed to Route 15 between exit 63 and it's eastern end at exit 68W. The USGS maintains a streamflow gaging station on the Quinipiac River along the parkway (west of exit 64) in Wallingford. The USGS, as part of a cooperative agreement with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, collects water-quality samples at this station in Wallingford monthy. These samples need to be processed them immediately in the USGS mobile water –quality lab.

The USGS mobile water –quality lab is a 10,000 lb box truck which measures 9 feet high and 22 feet long with U.S. Government plates (I431552). Thank you for your attention in this matter. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours, Jonathan Morrison Supervisory Hydrologist Phone (860) 291-6761 Fax (860) 291-6799 Email jmorriso@usgs.gov