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The 2012 legislative session opens today and will close May 9. As in all even-numbered years, this session is a "short session." Under the rules this means that the Legislature meets for three months rather than five and that only bills related to "budgetary" and "fiscal" matters or committee bills may be considered. In case you have heard that before but always wondered what it means – the Legislative Commissioner's Office has published a helpful description of the proposed bill guidelines which is available at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/lco/session-billguide.asp>. Bills proposed by individual members should be related to state revenues, appropriations, bonding, or cost savings. In practice, these guidelines are read liberally but not entirely ignored.

This is the first edition of Shipman & Goodwin's 2012 Environment, Energy and Land Use Legislative Update, which provides a list of Committee Chairs and important session deadlines for Committees that have cognizance of matters that typically relate to the environment, energy, and land use. The next edition of the Update will provide a list of pending environment, energy, and land use related bills. The list will draw mainly, but not exclusively, on bills originating in one of the following four committees of interest: (1) Environment; (2) Planning and Development; (3) Transportation; and (4) Energy and Technology.

The Chairs of the four Committees of interest are listed in Table 1:

Table 1: 2012 House and Senate Chairs

<i>Committee</i>	<i>House Chair</i>	<i>Senate Chair</i>
<u>Energy and Technology</u>	<u>Rep. Vicki Nardello</u>	<u>Sen. John Fonfara</u>
<u>Environment</u>	<u>Rep. Richard Roy</u>	<u>Sen. Edward Meyer</u>
<u>Planning and Development</u>	<u>Rep. Linda Gentile</u>	<u>Sen. Steve Cassano</u>
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>Rep. Tony Guerrera</u>	<u>Sen. Andrew Maynard</u>

A complete list of Committee members and contact information is available on each Committee's webpage.



Proposed legislation may be introduced by individual legislators ("proposed bills") or by Committee ("committee bills" or "raised bills"). The deadline for individual legislators to introduce proposed bills is February 10. The deadlines to introduce committee bills or raised bills vary by Committee as shown in Table 2 below. Table 2 also contains the deadline for public hearings and joint favorable reports:

Table 2: 2012 Important Committee Deadlines*

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Committee Bill (no subject matter PH)</i>	<i>Raised Bill</i>	<i>Public Hearing on PB</i>	<i>Committee Bill (if PH on PB)</i>	<i>Joint Favorable Reports</i>
Energy and Technology	2/23/12	2/23/12	3/15/12	3/15/12	3/29/12
Environment	2/22/12	2/24/12	3/12/12	3/16/12	3/26/12
Planning and Development	2/22/12	2/24/12	3/14/12	3/16/12	3/23/12
Transportation	2/22/12	2/24/12	3/7/12	3/9/12	3/21/12

* All dates adjusted for Group "A" and "B" Committee meeting dates and holidays

A table of deadlines for all Committees is available from the Legislative Commissioners' Office at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/lco/docs/2012CommitteeDeadlines.pdf>.

Every year, legislative leaders ask the Office of Legislative Research ("OLR") to identify and provide brief descriptions of important issues that the General Assembly may face in the coming session. The non-partisan staff compiles a list of issues based on a variety of indicators including recent research requests and discussions with legislators, state agency representatives, and other legislative participants. The resulting report entitled "2012 OLR Major Issues" is available on OLR's website at http://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/Documents/year/MI/2012MI-20111201_Major%20Issues%20for%202012.pdf.

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter or would like more detailed information, please contact Matt Ranelli at (860) 251-5748 or by e-mail at mranelli@goodwin.com. You can also contact any member of the Real Estate, Environmental and Land Use Group by calling (860) 251-5000 or by visiting our website at <http://www.shipmangoodwin.com>.

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