

**Written Testimony of Anthony D. Fratianni, Before the Connecticut
General Assembly Environment Committee
February 13, 2009, in support of "SB 3"**

Chairmen and Members of the Environmental Committee:

As a resident of Franklin Conn., I am writing to urge you to protect our natural resources and the rights of the citizens of our state. As you are aware, CRRA is in the preliminary process of testing for an ash landfill in Franklin. Myself, as many of my fellow townspeople, are opposed to this selection. I would like to outline my opposition to the proposed site.

The proposal site is to place the ash high in contaminants over a class A aquifer. I challenge the feasibility of the standards that would place an ash landfill over an existing and future water source for our community. Water is precious and sustains all life and is a basic human right and entitlement. As water scarcity grows, efforts should magnify to protect it for future generations. The town of Windham has already experienced a landfill failure in South Windham. The contamination polluted a good amount of wells in that area and the town had to provide and pay for a public water source. To place an existing and future water source in a position of potential danger is ill advised at best.

Placement of the ash landfill in the suggested area will place some endangered and threatened wildlife species at risk. Furthermore, loss of farmland both prime and important will be lost; according to the Farmland Trust, 8,000 acres is lost every year to development. Everyone in Connecticut reaps the benefits of farmland, from producing local food to providing pastoral vistas. Farms are a vital part of our history, culture and economy.

In the effort of keeping this letter brief, I request but one thing: I ask for the environmental justice that our community is entitled to.

Sincerely,



Anthony D. Fratianni
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