



State of Connecticut
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Senator Meyers, Representative Roy, Senator McKinney , Representative Chapin and members of the Environment Committee:

I share with my colleagues their concerns in the effects that this ash landfill will have on this beautiful natural area in Franklin. While the landfill will be placed where a gravel operation currently is located, it adjoins an area where enjoy many people the natural settings on a riverbank. So I join with those citizens who are concerned about this location choice in requesting that you pass this legislation which prohibit the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority from condemning, purchasing, leasing, accepting or taking title to, using, or otherwise acquiring any portion of the land located in the town of Franklin or Windham for the purpose of establishing an ash residue disposal area. The Town of Windham has already passed a resolution in opposition to this proposal and we join with them in their concerns

I recognize that precautions have been incorporated into their plans to prevent adverse effects from the disposal of the as such as a system of drainage and liner layers to keep the ash contained but I would still worry about the aquifer under the landfill if the system failed. Water is a valuable resource and it is starting to become scarce. This is a drinking water source and I don't think we can take a chance of polluting the water source as part of this drainage system. We will one day need this water supply. I believe this concern was conveyed in an article in this morning's Norwich Bulletin.

As I did last year, I would encourage CRRA to recycle and find uses for the ash from incineration that do not involve any landfill as has been suggested on previous occasions. I realize that we need to dispose of our waste and I appreciate the energy that is produced in the process but I think it is time to be creative in how we dispose of the residuals. We need a long term solution that does not involve this site in Franklin. Hopefully we can help this community preserve this land.