

Good Afternoon,

My name is Jill Grossman and I live in Trumbull with my husband, two teenage daughters and our dog. I am here today because I support Senate Bill 461 and respectfully ask you to require the Connecticut Siting Council to publicly consider *all* relevant factors in order to make an informed decision concerning the placement of fuel cells and expanders in residential communities. Our siting council should be free to review and act on all of the information that Federal Law requires publicly traded companies, like Fuel Cell Energy, to make available to potential investors.

Publicly traded companies are required to file certain informational documents with the Securities & Exchange Commission, one of which is called a Form 10-K. Within this document, signed by the company's Chairman, President, CEO and Board of Directors, Fuel Cell Energy lists risk factors that potential investors should consider. If potential investors should consider these factors, so should the siting council.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the following statements come directly from page 33 of Fuel Cell Energy's 10-K:

“Our business exposes us to the risk of harmful substances escaping into the environment, resulting in personal injury or loss of life, damage to or destruction of property, and natural resource damage.”

With all due respect, the company and its investors risk nothing more than money. If there is an explosion, or if toxic substances are released into Trumbull's air or water supply, the company and its investors will not be the ones physically harmed. The ones physically harmed will be the families who suffer personal injury, loss of life and destruction of property. These are public safety issues that must be considered on a case-by-case basis...and all citizens should be given a full and fair opportunity to voice their concerns.

Even more troubling, Fuel Cell Energy goes on to say:

“Our products utilize fuels such as natural gas and convert these fuels internally to hydrogen that is used by our products to generate electricity. *The fuels we use are combustible and may be toxic.*”

Could anyone truly suggest that enterprises that use combustible and toxic substances belong in a residential neighborhood without a deliberate and public inquiry?

Ladies and Gentlemen, decisions concerning the installation of a power plant, like the facility presently contemplated for the historic Nichols neighborhood – facilities that use combustible, and possibly toxic fuels, cannot and should not be made without a public hearing. Our siting council should be given broad discretion to evaluate all relevant factors before it decides whether such a facility is safe and proper in a residential community.

Thank you.