

Ashlawn Farm
78 Bill Hill Road
Lyme, CT 06371

February 9, 2011

Environmental Committee
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: SB830

Dear Committee Members:

I own a farm in New London County and have operated an OWF for approximately three years. The furnace heats my 300 year old farmhouse and saves approximately \$8000 annually in heating oil.

About a year ago, I was subject to 11 complaints by one neighbor as part as a campaign of harassment against the farm. The DEP initially gave a letter of violation, but upon further investigation, concluded that I was in compliance with current regulations. When I asked the DEP to rescind the letter, I was told "they didn't do that." Thus I account for multiple complaints and a violation even though no violation had occurred. Do you think the DEP has kept records to this effect?

As a follow up to this story, last fall the DEP "dropped in" unannounced on the people who bought the old neighbor's house asking if the new folks had any complaints. The DEP was told there were no complaints whatsoever and to leave the property. I'm glad the state has the money to go "fishing" for complaints when none has been made.

I am an example of how the proponents of the bill will skew the statistics in their favor. If you want to believe their statistics then I have a bridge to sell you in Brooklyn. I suggest the committee might dig a little to get an accurate reflection of the situation.

I also feel it is completely disingenuous on the part of the proponents to throw me a bone because I operate a farm. This bill doesn't deserve to get out of committee. Current regulations should keep these furnaces out of the suburbs.

Cordially

Glenn Dahlke
Ashlawn Farm
Lyme, CT 06371