



246 Rubber Ave  
Naugatuck, CT 06770  
203-720-7071

**Environment Committee Public Hearing  
Friday, March 16, 2012**

Testimony in Support of:

**SB 93, AN ACT CONCERNING A MERCURY THERMOSTAT COLLECTION AND  
FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and members of the Environment Committee, my name is Sheila Baummer, I live in, and work for, the Borough of Naugatuck and my testimony is in support of "SB 93." Thank you for the opportunity to write to you of my support of this important issue.

I support SB 93 and feel we need to require manufacturers to take responsibility for their toxic products and the end of life costs of managing their products. It will ensure that a maximum number of mercury thermostats are safely collected and recycled.

End-of-use mercury thermostats in Connecticut end up incinerated or in landfills, in both cases toxic mercury is released into our air and water. SB 93 would require thermostat manufacturers to finance and manage the collection and recycling of mercury thermostats. The incentives for the return of end-of-life thermostats will be an integral portion of the success of this program. States with similar legislation have been successful in greatly increasing recycling rates.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Sheila Baummer*  
Naugatuck Recycling & Solid Waste Coordinator  
246 Rubber Ave.  
Naugatuck, CT 06770  
203-720-7071  
sbaummer@naugatuck-ct.gov