



WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

PO BOX 283, WASHINGTON DEPOT, CT 06794

www.wec-ct.org

To: Connecticut State Senate – Environment Committee

Re: SENATE BILL 237, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE STORAGE OR DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT

Testimony submitted on February 27, 2014 by Carlos M. Canal, Jr., Washington CT, as President of and on behalf of the Washington Environmental Council, Inc. and its members for introduction at the hearing of SB 237 to be held by the Environment Committee on Friday, February 28, 2014.

The Washington Environmental Council was founded in 1971, when the environmental movement was just beginning in this country. For over 40 years, we have served our mission to be an advocate and provide leadership in maintaining, protecting and enhancing the environmental quality of the Town of Washington and the surrounding region. This includes monitoring important environmental issues affecting our area and acting to stop degradation of the environment before it occurs.

I wish to express our support for SB 237: An Act Prohibiting the Storage or Disposal of Fracking Waste in Connecticut.

The Council's reasons for taking this position is that approximately 40,000 gallons or more of chemicals are used per well in hydraulic fracturing, along with between 1.2 and 3.5 million U.S. gallons of water. Large projects use a greater amount of chemicals and up to 5 million U.S. gallons of water. Up to 600 chemicals are used in fracking fluid, including carcinogens and toxins such as: lead, uranium, mercury, ethylene glycol, radium, methanol, hydrochloric acid, formaldehyde. If SB 237 fails, this deadly liquid could be introduced to Connecticut's ecosystem with an uncertain threat to the health and welfare of our community, its wildlife and natural resources. Should toxic and potentially radioactive fracking waste contaminate Connecticut's waterways or aquifers, what unthinkable consequences would this have on our citizens?

We stand with the many other groups and individuals who have taken a position when we say "NO" to the storage or dumping of fracking waste in Connecticut and "YES" to SB 237.

Sincerely,

Carlos Canal, President
On Behalf of the Board of Directors

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