March 7, 2014

Testimony In Support of Raised SB 307,
An Act Concerning the Transfer of Certain Funds of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority

Senator Meyer and members of the Environment Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present comments of Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project.

The municipalities of Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, North Haven and Wallingford comprise the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project. Prior to July 1, 2010, these same municipalities comprised the Wallingford Project, which was under the control of Connecticut Resources Recover Authority (CRRA). From 1990 until 2010, funds were collected from these municipalities and placed in a reserve account for the post-closure maintenance and monitoring of the Wallingford Landfill. At present, CRRA holds approximately $6,600,000 in reserve for the Wallingford Landfill Post-Closure.

In 2013, legislation was passed to cause transfer of the Landfill Post-Closure funds held by CRRA to the General Fund of the State of Connecticut for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 and that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and CRRA would enter into a memorandum of understanding requiring the department to assume all legal obligations resulting of closure of the landfills. It is our understanding that the memorandum of understanding has not yet been finalized.

Therefore, the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project member communities support legislation requiring any funds collected and held by CRRA for the purposes of monitoring and maintaining the Wallingford Landfill shall not be transferred to any other entity or state agency without the consent of any town affected by the closure of the landfill.

Sincerely,

Doreen Zaback
Resource Recovery Project Coordinator