

H.B. No. 5409 AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE

The quest for extreme energy, including natural gas and oil from shale, has increased immensely in recent years without consideration of the risks and harmful effects to our water, air, land and citizens. As is often true with new technology, companies will move forward in spite of not having a way to handle the byproducts this technology produces.

It was true 40 years ago when nuclear power plants were being built without a place to store the waste and it is true today with the waste and by products from hydraulic fracturing. Compounding the problem with hydraulic fracturing waste is the fact that we have not been allowed to know the chemical content of this waste. Independent analysis has found carcinogens such as benzoic acid, hydrochloric acid, Methanol, and sulfuric acid.

As we have seen from the chemical spill in West Virginia and several train derailments, transport and storage of chemicals and liquid waste is extremely difficult and dangerous. I would not want to see CT waters experience the same devastating damage that has happened in these places. I support HB 5409 in the hopes that we can keep these toxic chemicals out of CT and make sure they are handled with extreme caution. I also hope that this bill is passed as a message to companies around the country that creation of these dangerous chemicals is not a sound business plan.

Thank you,
Ben Martin
329 Ward St
Wallingford, CT 06492