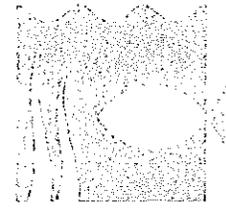


**Connecticut Fund  
for the Environment**



**Save the Sound**

**Testimony of Connecticut Fund for the Environment  
Before the Committee on Planning and Development**

***In opposition to Section 2 of SB 404, AN ACT CONCERNING BUILDING PERMIT FEES  
FOR CLASS I RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
CREDITS FOR TRASH-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES***

Submitted by Lauren Savidge  
Staff Attorney, Climate & Energy Specialist  
March 14, 2014

*Connecticut Fund for the Environment ("CFE") is a non-profit environmental organization with over 5,500 members statewide. The mission of the CFE, and its program Save the Sound, is to protect and improve the land, air and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring people together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.*

Dear Senator Osten, Representative Rojas, and members of the Committee on Planning and Development:

Connecticut Fund for the Environment submits this testimony in opposition to Section 2 of Proposed SB 404, An Act Concerning Building Permit Fees for Class I Renewable Energy Projects and Renewable Energy Credits for Trash-to-Energy Facilities. If passed, this section of the legislation would further subsidize incineration by requiring that renewable energy credits issued to certified Class II trash-to-energy facilities not be less than one cent per kilowatt hour.

The purpose of the renewable energy program and renewable energy credits is to encourage the cleanest energy sources, but waste to energy facilities pose health risks and emit toxic air pollutants like lead, cadmium, arsenic, chromium, and mercury. We need to focus on subsidizing cleaner renewable energy sources like solar and wind rather than trash-to-energy facilities. Additionally, our waste management should shift away from incineration and instead move towards reducing, reusing, and recycling to conserve valuable resources and promote cleaner air.

Therefore, we oppose section 2 of Proposed SB 404 that would further subsidize trash-to-energy facilities. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.