

Shaiken, Benjamin

From: C.Cornacchia (mobile) <cc@necsonline.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 2:55 PM
To: C. Cornacchia (mobile); ETTestimony
Subject: Pre-filed Testimony in support for Bill 566, Chester Cornacchia, Naugatuck, CT

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February 19, 2015

Esteemed Legislators,

I am Chester Cornacchia, representative for the Westover Hills subdivision, a single family residential subdivision of 62 homes in Naugatuck, Connecticut. The subdivision was approved in 1992 and is home to 184 residents, 106 of whom are children between the ages of two and twelve.

Additionally, there are 28 medically sensitive residents including asthmatics, elderly with upper respiratory ailments and/or special needs children.

The neighborhood sits in the westernmost corner of Naugatuck and is bordered by Oxford to the south and Middlebury to the west.

Since 1999 the neighborhood has suffered the seemingly unending black cloud threat of construction of a permitted power plant proposal two miles southeast of the subdivision. **In the last 15 years six extensions have been granted and another four year extension request is currently pending.** If approved, it would effectively extend the original application more than 20 years from its original approval and more than 10 years from the second to the last final approval and six years more than the last final approval extension.

Tax paying Westover Hills residents who's neighborhood and life's investment and interests predated the original Towantic project application have faithfully invested in the neighborhood and Naugatuck community through residency, taxes and the raising of their children in such an environment, have all been held hostage by this unending process.

People's lives are a stake, their commitment to their communities and their image and outlook of their communities are at stake. Without adequate restriction and timeframes on certificates each deadline seems to expire and subsequently get renewed without consequence to the primary stakeholders in the respective communities, who live, pay taxes and sustain the communities.

When is enough, enough? When is "the last extension" truly the last extension?

It seems that anything beyond the original permitted period, actual need or power plant investment climate notwithstanding, would constitute certificate banking and an extension beyond reason, all of this at the expense of the communities most valuable asset, it's residents and ultimate stakeholders.

How many bites at the apple are we to provide an applicant so that they can permit, design, seek funding and approve and build a plant? *It would seem only fair that anything beyond the original approval deadline should require a new application under the applicable standards of the current period.*

Ten years is more than the complete life cycle for any technology; think about what your cell phone looked like in 1999. If we continue on the current cycle of unlimited permit extension and certificate banking it will extend so much so that the apple will not even have it's core remaining. Resident stakeholders should not get left with only the pits.

It is for these reasons I respectfully request the passage of Bill 566.

Sincerely,

Chester Cornacchia