

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 422

Although I don't live in Bloomfield, I feel the sweetheart deal MDC made with Niagara Bottling is a threat to every Connecticut resident. A public utility's job is to serve the Connecticut public, not a huge California corporation. Not only does this deal give water priority to Niagara if there is a water shortage and the residents will have to fend for themselves. Niagara has been offered a 5 million dollar tax abatement and offers Bloomfield 35-78 low wage jobs. Imagine how many good jobs and local businesses could be created for 5 million dollars. Tax abatements should be for small local businesses that need capital to get established, not mega corporations who wish to acquire our water for a very low price and sell it for excessively high prices.

- 1) Residents should receive water in a time of drought. If there is a drought advisory, production of bottled water should stop.
- 2) Rescind water rate discounts for water bottlers.
- 3) Rescind the Special Sewer Service Charge discount for water bottlers. Corporations should pay the full rate as ratepayers have done.
- 4) Re-establish a citizen MDC watch dog committee. The MDC has demonstrated that they cannot be trusted. This whole agreement was done in complete secret.
- 5) Impose a moratorium on any new large water capacity agreements until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses this issue.

Approval of this agreement would set a dangerous precedent for everyone who lives in Connecticut. Please protect the rights of all Connecticut residents to first access to water.

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