

March 09, 2016

***Substitute SB 422: An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water***

Hearing date: Friday, March 11, 2016

To: Senator Osten and Representative Miller and the other Members of the Planning and Development Committee

Water is a precious resource; not a commodity to generate profits for corporations. The needs and goals of The Niagara Corporation are diametrically opposed to those of private citizens. Residents in towns who have paid for maintenance and improvements to the water supply would now be forced to take a back seat so that a corporation can profit.

We need to:

- **Protect residents, not water bottlers during a drought.** If the DPH declares a Drought Advisory, the production of bottled water in CT needs to stop.
- **Rescind water rate discounts for water bottlers.** They extract large amounts of our municipal water and spring water, fill the environment with plastic pollution, and profit while citizens are conserving and paying more.
- **Rescind the *Special Sewer Service Charge* discount for water bottlers (now known as the *Clean Water Project Charge*).** CT ratepayers have paid for years to build infrastructure for clean water; no discounts for corporations.
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch dog committee.**
- **Impose a moratorium on any new large capacity agreements** until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issue of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds.

I urge you to support substitute SB422.

Sincerely,

Nicole Dorio  
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