

March 9, 2017

Attn: Environment Committee

Re: H.B. #6329 Act Concerning hydraulic Fracturing Waste in CT

Dear Chairs Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, and members of the committee,

What more do we need? Sufficient time has passed for scientists, toxicologists, environment and health agencies, and independent study groups to accumulate a significant body of data and evidence relative to the health hazard connected with the Hydraulic Fracking process and the toxic contents in Fracking wastewater aka Flow-back. It is a vital reason I strongly support H.B. 6329. In addition I ask that DEEP not be given the authority to submit regulations. I commend the farsighted and citizen-minded legislators for proposing H.B.6329.

It is well known that the Hydraulic fracturing (fracking) process involves drilling hundreds of miles deep into underground rocks and pumping massive amounts of chemically laced water into cracks to release gas or oil. It is equally known that fracking has become a major issue and concern in the United States. What should be recognized are the studies documenting that as much as half of the fracturing fluid returns to the surface as wastewater "flow-back and questions remain as to treatment facilities ability to remove all toxins.

The list of the chemical contents of Flow-back/wastewater can be found on various sites. These chemicals include: Butane and Toluene, radioactive particles, arsenic, Methane, Methylene Chloride, Radon, Radium, Hydrogen sulfide, Silica, and Formaldehyde. Noted is that because fluids used in the fracking process contain a brew of chemicals that may be persistent bioaccumulative and toxic and may include carcinogens, mutagens, water pollutants, reproductive toxicants, and endocrine disruptors; flowback can contain any of these ingredients plus a high concentration of salts, heavy metals, hydrocarbons from the rocks and significant levels of naturally occurring radioactive materials.

Unfortunately, it has been cited that due to loopholes in state and Federal laws fracking waste is not classified as hazardous even though toxicologists and other health organizations have confirmed it can be harmful to human health and the environment. Ten towns have had the foresight to ban fracking waste storage in their communities. What these communities cannot prevent is toxic spills from trucks and other conveyances transporting fracking waste across roadways and highways or contamination from accidental incidents at storage facilities.

What more do we need? The approval and ultimate passage of H.B 6329. Thank you for the opportunity to express my position.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Beaudin
1009 Poquonock Ave.
Windsor, CT