

Dear Environment Committee,

My name is Savitri Horrigan and I am a resident of Westport, Connecticut. I am writing to you in full **support** of House Bill No. 6329, to permanently prohibit the storage, disposal, handling and use of hydraulic fracturing waste in Connecticut.

Reasons why I support this bill:

- According to a report by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce, more than 650 commonly used fracking products contain chemicals that are "known or possible human carcinogens, regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, or listed as hazardous air pollutants."
- According to a report by the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research in Pennsylvania, Marcellus shale development can release radioactivity into the environment in three ways. First, rock cuttings from drilling may be improperly disposed. Second, wastewater may be improperly treated and discharged into streams and rivers. Third, wastewater may be intentionally released into the environment — such as by spreading it on roads as deicing material.
- In Pennsylvania, 6,391 wells are drilled and active. Each gas well takes between 2 to 5 million gallons of fluid to frack. Of that, 10 to 50 percent of the toxic fluid returns to the surface. Fracking waste fluid can thus contain the following: toxic chemicals, radioactive materials and arsenic.
- According to toxicologist David Brown, were radioactive materials produced by a nuclear reactor it would be tightly regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. However the exact same radioactive materials from shale fracking is considered Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material, (NORM) and the responsibility of the USEPA which has declared it exempt from hazardous material regulation because it comes from E&P activity.
- Fracking waste threatens the health and safety of Connecticut residents. Cancer-causing materials found in fracking waste will devastate individuals, families, and communities. Connecticut should protect itself and future generations. Supporters of natural gas and hydraulic fracturing may say that toxins and other harmful materials are just necessary evils for us to enjoy cleaner-burning, more affordable gas. But I urge you to consider the whole picture and what it means to put harmful products and practices over the lives of the very people fracking is supposed to help.

I support passage of H.B. 6329.

Thank you,

Savitri Horrigan