

Testimony for Public Hearing
Environment Committee
Sunday March 13, 2017

Valerie Horsley 270 Willow St. New Haven, CT 06511

Re: HB7247 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CARBON PRICE FOR FOSSIL FUELS SOLD IN CONNECTICUT
and HB6329 AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT

Good afternoon, Environment Committee Members: My name is *Valerie Horsley* from New Haven, a professor at Yale University. I am also a leader of a grassroots organization, Action Together Connecticut, which seeks to support civic engagement for equality and justice for all.

I support both of these bills, as outlined below.

1. **HB7247 Carbon price:** I would like to ensure that CT is a leader in addressing climate change, a defining crisis of our time. I think that a fifteen-dollar price on each ton of carbon dioxide equivalent released by burning fossil fuels will create an *incentive* for electricity suppliers and natural gas distributors to reduce their carbon emissions. These suppliers would have to conserve energy and supply energy from renewable, non-polluting sources. This bill would also increase the price on carbon each year to accelerate emissions reductions, spur innovation, and maintain a steady stream of revenue.

2. **HB6329 Fracturing waste:** Hydraulic fracking can release toxic waste that can cause harm to human health, as a recent Yale study revealed. <http://www.nhregister.com/environment-and-nature/20160106/yale-study-raises-health-concerns-about-fracking-fluids-wastewater> CT must ensure that our residents are not subject to this potential harmful effect. Several towns have begun banning this process (<http://www.nhregister.com/general-news/20160206/connecticut-towns-raise-concerns-about-fracking-waste-branford-could-become-4th-to-ban-it>) and to be most safe, a state-wide initiative is needed.

Sincerely,



Valerie Horsley, PhD
Action Together CT, Leader; New Haven County Chapter
Associate Professor-- Yale University