



To Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, Representative Demicco and honorable members of the Environment Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 6329 An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing in CT.

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is the process whereby oil and gas wells are injected with, on average, 4-5 million gallons of chemically-laced solution, sand and other materials to fracture shale, releasing oil and gas and additional toxins buried in the ground. In addition to the numerous toxic chemicals in the fracking fluid, other wastes that are harmful to the environment are produced including drilling muds, saline brine, contaminated fluids from the drilling process, leachate and toxic sludge.

A recent Yale study reported 1157 toxic chemicals used in the fracking process, however there is no clear way to know the amount or mix of chemicals as this is considered confidential, proprietary information. In addition to toxic chemicals, fracked wastewater is likely contaminated with radioactive material, including Radium 226 and 228. Radium is known to cause breast, bone and liver cancers, and is associated with childhood and adult leukemia. The half-life of radium is 1,600 years, meaning any release into the CT environment will be causing radioactive contamination for many generations to come.

Monitoring of environmental contamination through the lifecycle of drilling, fracturing, withdrawal and transport of fracking waste is fraught with risks of contaminating the environment, is extremely costly and cannot be adequately managed by current DEEP enforcement staff nor should it fall to the responsibility of towns.

Any perceived benefit of transporting fracking waste to Connecticut is heavily outweighed by the very real threats of contamination of the environment and risks to human health and the health of wildlife. Towns across Connecticut have passed municipal ordinances banning fracking waste and there are 20 more towns interested in doing so. Fracking waste is extremely hazardous and should be banned statewide. We applaud the members of the Environment Committee for raising this bill and urge you to work to assure its passage this session.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne B. Hulick".

Anne Hulick, RN, MS, JD

Connecticut Director, Clean Water Action



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