

March 10, 2017

Dear Senators and Representatives, considering HB6329 An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing Waste in Connecticut,

As a filmmaker nominated for an award for a children's television pilot about water safety and the water habitats of both fresh water and sea creatures, I had the privilege to attend a conference on just such environmental issues in St. Petersburg, Florida last November. This particular film festival centers on the most up to date media being produced about environmental issues, both local and global.

It was humbling that our small production made in little Lebanon, CT, was presented next to films such as Leo DiCaprio's "Before the Flood," and multi-million dollar films destined for the National Geographic Channel and Imax Theaters. The films I saw over a five day period encapsulated a hard fight against all of the wrong thinking which is going on right now about how extremely dangerous fossil fuel production is. The filmmakers spoke very astutely about why traveling to such dangerous spots all over the world to educate the public about pollution and endangered ecosystems was their driving passion.

And, having learned so much, I have to ask why this state, full of some of the most educated people in this nation, given the clear evidence of the dangers and damage to communities across the country, would even consider fracking and pipelines to be an option. We are facing an administration Hell bent on reviving and continuing fatal practices such as coal mining, oil drilling and fracking for natural gas when, in fact, these are dying, obsolete industries and they have no place in a 21st Century economy.

As the use of oil and natural gas fades into the sunset, I realize that many homes and businesses have not converted away from needing fossil fuel products. But now is not the time to cave into the special interests who wish to make a profit off of flogging this dying horse. Across the state, no local towns want to see their water tables and aquifers compromised by subterranean fractures flushed with toxic chemicals to acquire methane. No one wants further clear cutting of areas to run pipelines for gas or oil. And, on this day where the Water Protectors are marching on Washington, no one wants the risks of pipelines or fracking waste spills ruining their ground water, their property or their health ever again.

So, I encourage you to officially ban hydraulic fracking, oil exploration, and the bi-product waste of these practices for once and for the good of all within the State of Connecticut's borders including what limits extend into the Sound. There should be no permissible exemption granted from any municipality, or any federal government agency allowed within the state limits. And I also ask you to consider clearly defined legal ramifications and penalties for those who disobey this Act.

Respectfully yours,
Suzanne LaTulipe
President, Parallel Park Productions, Inc.
Willimantic, CT