

Dear members of the Environment Committee,

I am writing to you today to implore you to support HB 6329. My name is Laura Sokoloski and I'm currently a senior in high school. I know I am young, but all that means is that I will have to live for a long time with the consequences that allowing fracking waste to cross our borders would inevitably cause

The delicately termed "formation water" contains heavy metals, corrosive salts, known carcinogens, arsenic, and radioactive materials, which according to the United States Forest Service study mentioned in the February 24 edition of the Rivereast News Bulletin is clearly extremely toxic (paragraph 7- effect of chemicals on human health and paragraph 8- effect on trees). The Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania, one of the closest fracking operations and by far the most productive is the likely source of any waste we would accept, and produces the most radioactive flow back water of anywhere in the United States. This seems like something we might take care not to have around, especially considering the inevitable leakage of this waste into the soil. New York accepts fracking waste and in 2014 alone 460,000 tons of solid waste and 4,286 gallons of waste water were sent to landfills and 42,546 gallons of waste water was spread on the roads to de-ice them, where it naturally flowed into wetlands and rivers, and contaminated the soil.

The public has spoken out in favor of a ban on importing fracking waste. Already eleven towns have bans and thirty are in the process of enacting more.

By passing HB 6329, Connecticut would send a clear message that we are not willing to allow ourselves to become a dumping ground for hazardous waste. The groundwater and the soils we use to cultivate our food would not be contaminated by radioactive materials and carcinogenic agents. Please support this bill for the health of the environment and the health of the citizens of Connecticut.

Yours respectfully,

Laura Sokoloski

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