

March 10, 2017

Dear Environmental Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Norwalk River Watershed Association in support of HB6329 AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT. **Fracking waste contains toxic chemicals, environmental toxins, and hazardous contaminants that are known to cause multiple cancers, organ damage, and other serious health problems.** Remediation of spills or discharge of improperly treated waste would be a costly burden to taxpayers, if it can be done at all. Please vote to ban fracking waste from entering our state permanently.

Oil and gas drilling wastes are a toxic soup of carcinogens (naphthalene, benzene, acrylamide and radium - causing breast, bone, liver and other cancers) environmental toxins (toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene - causing nervous system, kidney or liver harm) and contaminants (arsenic, lead, hexavalent chromium and radioactive radium-226 which has a half-life of 1600 yrs.) Bringing this dangerous waste to Connecticut for disposal, via thousands of additional tanker trucks on our roadways, poses the risk of accidents, spills, and contamination of private and public lands, drinking and surface waters, and costly repairs to road and publicly-owned treatment systems. Connecticut is one of the smallest and most densely populated states in the nation, and this activity would threaten resident health and risk land and water resources and property values forever. We know that waste from over 10,000 fracked wells in Pennsylvania (one of the most radioactive shale deposits in the nation) is currently being shipped to at least 8 states. Please protect Connecticut from this threat.

The Norwalk River Watershed Association asks the State to take action to permanently prohibit the disposal, treatment, storage, handling, de-icing applications and other uses of fracking waste and by-products anywhere in Connecticut. Like our neighboring state of Vermont, we need to take final steps to protect all 169 of our Connecticut towns and cities.

Thank you,

Louise Washer, President  
Norwalk River Watershed Association