

Honorable Senator Miner, Senator Kennedy, Representative Demicco and distinguished members of the committee:

Please permanently ban toxic, radioactive fracking waste in Connecticut.

Since this contaminated waste will need to be treated in order for it to be disposed of or reused for any other purpose, it is a risk to the public's health. There is a risk of a leak or spill during the transportation of these hazardous materials that will contaminate the site where the spill occurs.

Fracking sites are all outside the state jurisdiction and any waste brought into the state will be dependent on the oversight of the jurisdiction where the waste is being created. There have been many documented instances where the monitoring of the waste created is insufficient to verify that what is leaving the site from which it was created is as safe as is stated by the producers. The shipment of the contaminated waste from these sites is being allowed as the testing is insufficient to verify that the waste does not contain radioactive waste.

How will the state monitor the waste that entering the state? Will they stop each truck entering the state and check its cargo and manifest? Will the state then verify that the truck contains what it is documented to contain? Our laws may be stricter than where the waste is coming from, but without verification of what is entering the state, we will be allowing other localities to determine what is being brought into the state. Where is the money going to come from to monitor this? New taxes? Fees from bringing in the waste? Any money we gain from allowing this to happen will be lost to costs to clean up the environmental mess created by allowing the waste to enter the state.

The waste processing facilities where this waste may be sent has already had many instances of failures in handling the current waste that they receive. Why do we think that they would be able to better handle fracking waste?

A huge experiment is going on in Pennsylvania where the waste is being created and treated. They have failed to protect their citizens and have left some Pennsylvania residents without any safe drinking water because their aquifers are contaminated. New York also tried that experiment and has decided the environmental fallout from this is not worth the monetary gain and has since banned it.

Please permanently ban toxic, radioactive fracking waste in Connecticut. Our environment, health, property values, town and state budgets cannot afford the accidents, spills, leaks and inadequate treatment of waste that will be entering from other states. We need to ban this waste in Connecticut so we don't face the same contamination problems here.

Sincerely,

Richard Eldridge

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