

Dear Members of the Environment Committee,

I write in support of SB 103, AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT, and thank Environment Committee members for moving it forward. It would ban waste from the process of hydraulic fracturing for gas wells, rather than allow DEEP to write regulations that lead to future permits. Permits will lead to accidents, spills and leaks and inadequate treatment before discharging still contaminated effluent and inappropriate re-use. We've already seen this in other states with regulations, where waterways and landfills are now radioactive. This environmental contamination will be too costly for town and state budgets to remediate, and in some cases, it will be impossible to fix: where it runs off into waterways, seeps into aquifers or contaminates sands and sediments in Long Island Sound. Bioaccumulation up the food chain to fish and shellfish also cannot be controlled. Contaminated sediments that spread through flooding also can never be managed. I've spent time in the frackland of Pennsylvania and met many residents whose wells were contaminated as a result of injecting this waste into the ground, and where it was also spread on roads. I don't want it in our state.

While I support the proposed legislation, I respectfully request that the language be strengthened to include more than just waste from gas wells.

Sincerely,

Melinda Tuhus

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