

James T Prado
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March 13, 2018

To the Chairs of the Environmental Committee

RE: Bill No. 427 AAC Public Trust Components of the State Water Plan

Dear Sen. Ted Kennedy Jr., Sen. Craig Miner, and Rep. Mike Demicco;

I am writing to express grave concern over the proposed changes to the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), the bedrock statute protecting clean water and air. As you know the proposed changes would exclude “private drinking wells” from the public trust. Such a proposal is ludicrous. What occurs at any single private well can affect an entire watershed. This is analogous to saying the water in my local watershed is in the public trust but the largest and most prolific private wells in this watershed can pump water into trucks to be shipped out of the state and sold even if the stream in my backyard is dry. I am sure you are aware that the largest and most prolific “private wells” in our state are controlled by private water companies.

I consider any changes that remove private drinking wells from the “Public Trust” to be a violation of public trust by those we have elected to safeguard this trust.

Please do not allow these proposed changes to occur.

Respectfully submitted,

James T Prado