

To: Environment Committee

Date: March 1, 2021

From: Debra MacCoy

RE: Raised Bill No. 6496

My name is Debra MacCoy, and I live in Vernon, CT. I offer testimony on my perplexed support of Raised Bill No. 6496- An Act Concerning Certain Soil-Related Initiatives.

I live in the hardest hit crumbling foundation Town of Vernon, over 370 homes affected by pyrrhotite and a couple of apartment buildings; much like the Town of Tolland with public buildings such as Birch Grove School, Firehouse, commercial buildings, and 220 houses affected. In total we have over 1700 claimants who have applied to the captive insurance company, CFSIC. That's a whole lot of hazardous material being taken out of homes and dispersed to the "closest pit" as I have been told.

My concerns are: Where is this hazardous concrete going? (that is removed from homeowners across the Capitol Region of CT) What are it's uses after being removed? Is it safe to stock pile mounds and mounds of removed foundations from houses, large structure -condos & puds, public schools and commercial buildings. **Or would it be better as a beneficially reclaimed material that will be under the guidance and "consent" of the commissioner for certain locations environmentally impaired or under utilized?**

Are they burying the defective concrete, are they treating the defective concrete prior to burial, is there any studies that anyone can point me to -that burying pyrrhotite ridden concrete is safe. There are contractors offering to bury the entire removed foundation in the homeowners back yard, will that burial ever leach, what of towns with 100% well water. What of the gravel pit where the berm has breached and that stock pile of oxidizing pyrrhotite is weathering, near a river.

I would like to see the removed concrete go to an area that is safe that is being reclaimed but has the hazardous concrete treated with lime as they did when the highway in Pennsylvania tapped into Pyrite and they had to remove it to a safe area and treated it with lime. With treating pyrrhotite would it be considered a beneficial reclaimed material to be used as fill at such locations, that is for those with knowledge above my pay grade to decide.

By having the commissioner **establishing guidelines that are protective of public health, safety, and environment and not be in an aquifer protection area** and the location that is environmentally impaired or underutilized would have some preference, this may give relief to those who ponder where is my foundation ending up, and what uses if any are there for pyrrhotite ridden removed concrete. It's certainly not meant to end up stock piled at a pit or buried and forgotten. The commissioner and these guidelines and implementing a pilot program may be a place to ask and answer these question I and so many others have. This is uncharted territory in CT and the removal and placement elsewhere for goodness knows what uses is wing and a prayer, and we need to make certain through the commissioner's guidance that using this hazardous material is safe as fill in these environmentally impaired locations.

Thank you for your time. Debra MacCoy