



## **MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT** *Prohibiting Toxic Fracking Waste*

### **SB 237**

#### **An Act Prohibiting the Storage and Disposal of Fracking Waste in Connecticut**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The extraction of natural gas produces large amounts of liquid and solid waste that can contain hundreds of harmful pollutants, including salts; chemical additives, such as ethylene glycol, naphthalene, and sulfuric acid; metals; organic compounds; and other contaminants. The exact chemical constituents of the drilling fluids are exempt from disclosure under the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). The waste products from natural gas extraction include:

- Chemical additives used for drilling and fracking
- Naturally-occurring contaminants that are mobilized by the extraction process, including radioactive materials such as radium-226 and radium-228
- Drilling muds- can be based with water; potassium chloride/polymer; or synthetic-oil
- Drill Cuttings – rock displaced from the drilling process that can be contaminated depending upon drilling muds used
- Production Brine- can be extremely saline and have high levels of TDS, which are unable to go through normal wastewater treatment facilities.

#### **JUSTIFICATION**

Fracking produces millions of gallons of toxic wastewater at every well. Regulations and reporting standards for the management of this waste are virtually non-existent at the federal level, leaving it up to the states to address this serious public health threat. Connecticut neither has the resources nor the infrastructure to properly treat and dispose of this waste, and should take immediate action to protect its citizens, communities and natural resources from under-regulated toxic and hazardous waste.

### **CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS SB. 237 PROHIBITING THE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE**

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Citizens Campaign for the Environment is an 80,000 member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment.