



Governor Dannel P. Malloy
State of Connecticut
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
860-566-4840

ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COUNTY OF ALBANY
STATE OF NEW YORK

Commissioner Robert Klee
Dept of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106
860-723-7600

December 18, 2017

Dear Governor Malloy and DEEP Commissioner Klee:

We are concerned that the State of Connecticut is seriously considering a proposal that relies on burning 116,000 tons of trash per year in the cement kiln in our county.

As residents and public officials in Albany County, New York, we understand waste incineration, as we also had a state-run trash incinerator that was quite polluting. Albany County has moved away from trash incineration years ago, and saw our incinerator closed in 1994.¹

This proposal DEEP is considering is one of three finalists that may be chosen by the end of this month.² Connecticut Public Act No. 14-94 states that the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection "may" select one of these three final proposals on or before December 31, 2017 and direct the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority to enter into an agreement for redevelopment of the aging trash incinerator in Hartford, known as the Connecticut Solid Waste Management System Project.³ We understand the need to replace this old incinerator. However, we object to replacing it with waste burning in our county.

The proposal by Mustang Renewable Power Ventures would have some recyclables removed from the trash from 70 Connecticut towns, and the rest would be baled, shipped to the LafargeHolcim cement plant in our county, shredded, and burned in their kiln.⁴ This LafargeHolcim plant has long been of the largest air polluters in New York State. Trash is a dirtier fuel than coal by many measures.⁵ It is more polluting even when burned in trash incinerators that are equipped with more air pollution controls than coal plants typically have. We are not willing to become the backyard for 116,000 tons/year of Connecticut trash, risking increased pollution from trucking and from air emissions at our local cement plant.

Prince George's County, Maryland recently went through a similar process to yours, evaluating various "waste-to-energy" schemes, and choosing seven finalists, including two of the three being considered by

¹ <http://www.csmonitor.com/1994/0208/08111.html>

² http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2718&q=570556&deepNav_GID=1646

³ Public Act No. 14-94, p.3. <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2014/act/pa/pdf/2014PA-00094-R00SB-00357-PA.pdf>

⁴ [http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/waste management and disposal/solid waste/mira_rfp/mustang response to rfp executive summary.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/waste%20management%20and%20disposal/solid%20waste/mira_rfp/mustang_response_to_rfp_executive_summary.pdf)

⁵ <http://www.energyjustice.net/incineration/worsethancoal>

