

Dear Senators,

I am an elected member of the Greenwich CT RTM. I have no connection to oil, gas, nor to any related sectors. I have extensive engineering experience with 22 issued US Patents, and an MBA from Wharton.

**I fully support the effort to protect our environment from contaminated waste products, but SB 753 FAILS to do this and has unintended consequences.**

**I believe SB 753 is needlessly broad and would have unintended consequences which will significantly hamper our state's economy**

(please also refer to the attached detail "How SB 753 Bans Steel and Fruit"):

- As drafted SB 753 prohibits common and perfectly safe "treated" products and byproducts
  - prevents recycling of Steel
  - prohibits the use of recycled asphalt, and concrete
  - bans fruit, vegetables, livestock and fish grown with recycled of water
- SB 753 is **unscientific and fails to properly define oil and gas wastes and has many drafting errors**
  - Improperly relies on the term "geologic or geophysical" which is normally used for exploration and not production
  - Improperly defines "waste" as "any liquid"
  - Does not distinguish harmful substances from safe ones – it's bad if it touched an oil well
  - Provides no method for determining maximum acceptable levels
  - SB 753 language even covers refined petroleum products
- SB 753 prohibits the "sale" and "acquisition" of waste products and byproducts, even if they are not brought into the state interfering with interstate commerce

I worked on a **similar bill passed by the Greenwich RTM**. After extensive discussion the Greenwich Ordinance was substantially revised and many exclusions were deemed necessary.

I urge you to **review and revise** the language together with experts from EPA and DEEP.

**Most important: I urge you to modify SB 753 so that it does not hamper the normal recycling of steel, water, asphalt and concrete.**

Please do not be misled by Food & Water Watch and its local advocates:

- Lack of law suits at the local level to-date does not mean there are no problems

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,

Michael Spilo  
Greenwich CT  
RTM D11, Vice-Chair Public Works Committee  
Greenwich RTC, D11 Exec. Committee  
P: (203) 661 – 9843  
E: [mike@mspilo.com](mailto:mike@mspilo.com)

# Water Recycling is Vital!

Water is our most precious resource

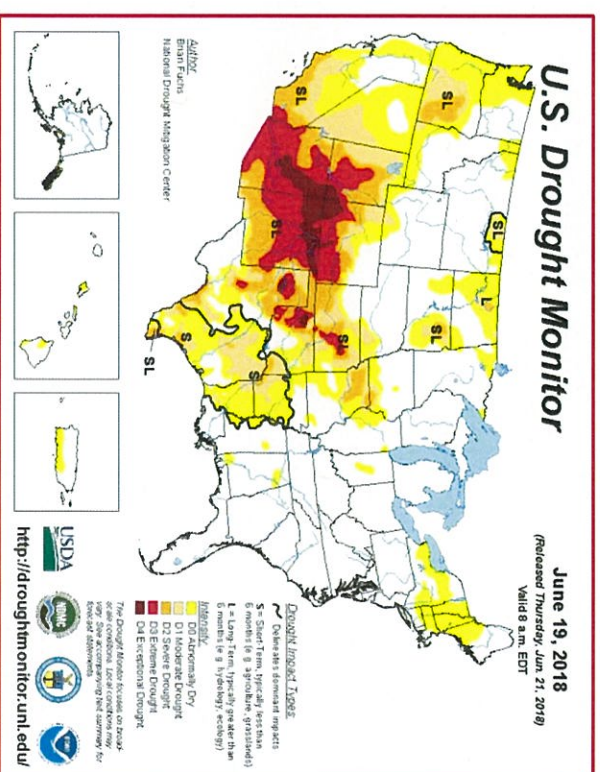
Water Recycling:

- Reduces the impact of droughts
- Prevents reservoir depletion
- Restores wetlands & stream habitats
- Reduces and Prevents pollution
- Saves Energy

• Prominent GOs and NGOs supporting water recycling:



Click on the logos for more info





# HOW SB 753 Bans Fruit

- Water is the MAIN waste from Oil & Gas <sup>1</sup>
- Wastewater is tested and the cleanest is sent to treatment plants
  - Treatment plants remove contaminants and recycle the cleanest outflow water
  - The rest is injected back into disposal wells deep underground
- SB 753 language prohibits any products "resulting from" "treated" wastewater

SB 753 prohibits any produce grown with recycled water!  
As well as products made with recycled water, like paper

How this bans ALL recycled water:

- Water companies mix well water and recycled water from different sources <sup>3</sup>
- 1 in 5 western farmers use recycled water <sup>4</sup>
- CA alone recycles 16 Billion gallons of oil well water a year for irrigation <sup>2</sup>

There are no problems using recycled water <sup>2</sup>

- Israel recycles 90% of its wastewater <sup>5</sup> yet has lower cancer rates & longer life expectancy than the US

Oil & Gas  
Waste water  
sent here

Treated  
Water

Sent Here

Produces this



1. <http://www.producedwatersociety.com/produced-water-101/>
2. [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications/forms/publications/factsheets/docs/prod\\_water\\_for\\_crop\\_irrigation.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications/forms/publications/factsheets/docs/prod_water_for_crop_irrigation.pdf)
3. <https://www.epa.gov/regions9/water/recycling/>
4. <https://www.usbr.gov/>
5. <http://www.thetower.org/43050c-israel-recycles-90-of-its-wastewater-four-times-more-than-us>



# Steel Recycling is Vital!

## Recycled products: <sup>1</sup>

- Produce less carbon
- Conserve natural resources
- Save energy
- Reduce pollution
- Create 757,000 jobs; \$36.6 billion in wages; and \$6.8 billion in tax revenues.



- Each year, **steel recycling** saves enough energy to electrically power 20% of US households – USGS <sup>2</sup>
- **LEED Certification REQUIRES Recycled Steel!**



<sup>1</sup> [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/final\\_2016\\_rei\\_report.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/final_2016_rei_report.pdf)  
<sup>2</sup> <https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/recycle/870499.pdf>



# How SB 753 Bans Steel!

"Drilling" is part of "extraction activities" thus by EPA regulations any abandoned or recycled drilling equipment is "waste" <sup>1</sup>

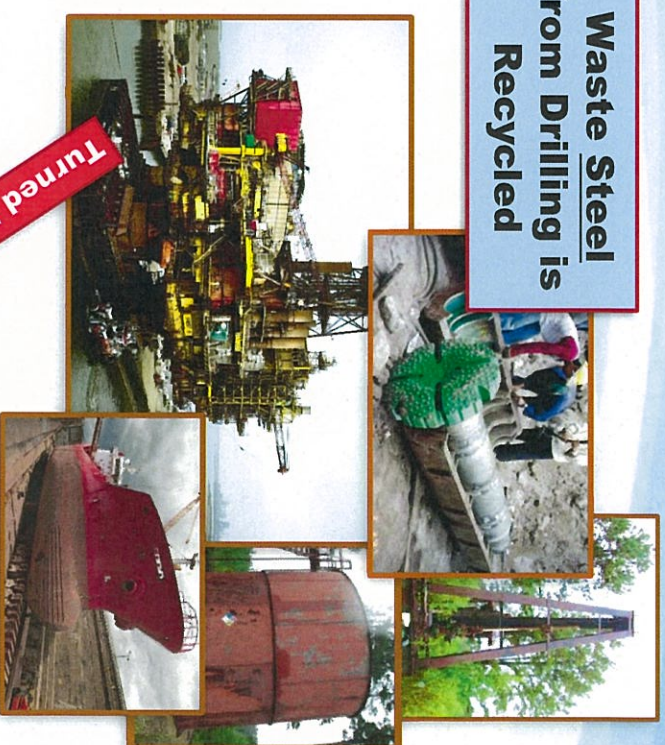
- Oil producers sell used drill bits, pipes, drilling rigs, storage tanks and other discarded or unwanted "drilling related" parts to scrap metal recyclers:
  - Recyclers chop up and mix this "oil waste" steel with other scrap metal <sup>2</sup>
  - Scrap metal is sent to steel foundries to make new steel with "recycled content"
  - This Recycled Steel is sold worldwide to auto makers, etc.

## SB 753 would ban all steel!

Why ALL steel?

- It's IMPOSSIBLE to buy "100% pure, mined" steel <sup>3</sup>
- LEED certification requires high recycled content
- Steel is recycled over-and-over so there's some "oil & gas" in all of it (oil & gas steel has been recycled since 1870)
- There's no known problem with recycled steel
- This includes all the steel already in our buildings and roads

**Waste Steel**  
from Drilling is  
Recycled



Turned into

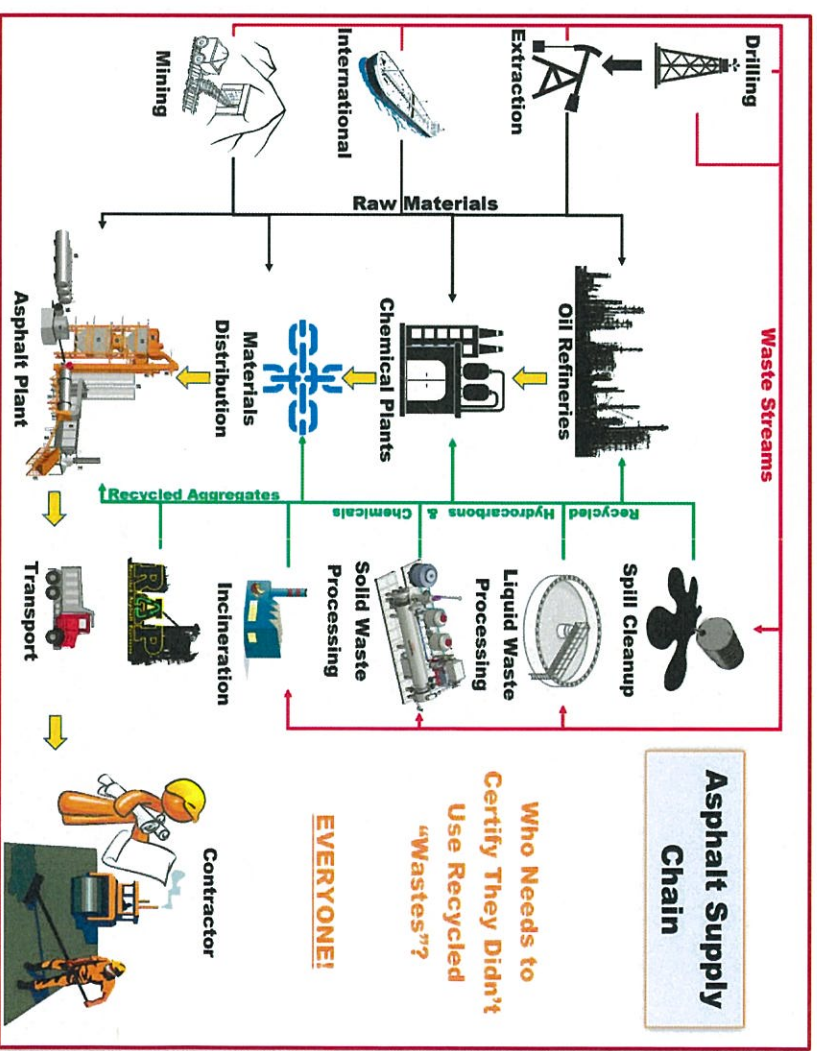


1. EPA Definition of waste <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/documents/soliddef.pdf>
2. Example of recycling oil rigs <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/may/02/where-oil-rigs-go-to-die>
3. Nucor Steel Recycled Content: [https://www.nucor-sheetmills.com/files/File\\_419.pdf](https://www.nucor-sheetmills.com/files/File_419.pdf)



Many other wastes from oil production are recycled.  
SB 753 doesn't distinguish harmful wastes.

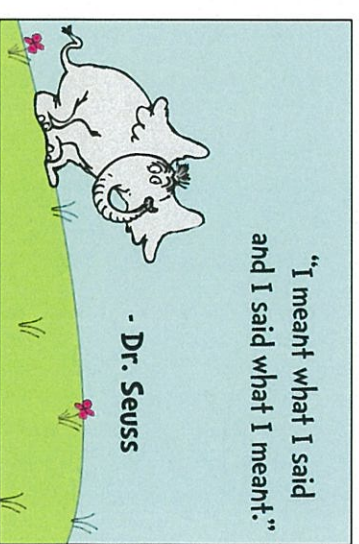
- Complex International Supply Chain<sup>1</sup> with unknown origins
- Recycled wastes are used everywhere<sup>2</sup>
- “Waste” and chemicals made from “Treated Byproducts” are used everywhere
- Resulting products like asphalt contain “Oil Waste” as defined in SB 753



1. <https://www.api.org/~media/Files/Policy/Safety/API-Oil-Supply-Chain.pdf>
2. <http://kleanwater.com/enhanced-saltwater-disposal-well-operations/>  
<http://www.coqa-inc.org/docs/default-source/meeting-presentations/20100211-graham-waste-01-22-12.pdf>

## SB 753 is unclear about “legislative intent”

- How is this a Ban on “Fracking Waste” when
  - it covers any waste from any oil & gas production
  - Even though 49% of US production is not fracking?
  - And outside the US there is no Fracking?
- Avoid banning perfectly safe reuse and recycling of products like Steel and Water
- What exactly are “geological and geophysical” activities and what is “related to” these?





# Please Beware the Fallacies:

- “No problem so far” does not mean “no problem”
  - Problems don't arise until you try to enforce
  - The language in SB 753 is new and untested (no enforcement in communities that passed similar language)
- “A lot of towns passed this” does not make it good
  - Most towns haven't looked at it closely
  - It's been railroaded into place by a special interest group with an agenda and using misleading fear tactics

