

Would you drink water from a retired heavy industry lot? Our children should have the same clean drinking water we have.

### So what can we do about it?

#### Sign the petition

A link can easily be found on our website: [protectourwatershedsct.org](http://protectourwatershedsct.org)

#### Participate

Write to your local representatives and legislators, or even better, attend local meetings and hearings and speak up on this issue (leaders like to see participation and will remember you for it). Email Mayor Stewart, the Water Planning Council, the Public Health Committee, Senators, town council members, even Governor Malloy; everyone is involved and everyone has a say in the outcome. Catching the attention of our State Representatives is imperative. You can find your local legislator's contact info on [cga.ct.gov](http://cga.ct.gov) (click *Representation* and *Find your Senator*)

#### Spread the word

Talk to your friends, family, and neighbors. Share this brochure, post online, or volunteer with us. This issue was kept quiet at first, which made it easy for beneficiaries to get this far.

## Protect Our Watersheds Connecticut



(POWCT) formed in early 2016. We are a grass roots citizen group from New Britain, Plainville, Southington, and surrounding towns.

#### Our Goals:

- + Protect and preserve drinking water for all Connecticut residents, their children, and their children's children.
- + Protect natural resources and public health.
- + Support Connecticut watershed laws.
- + Build local partnerships and educate citizens.

#### Stay informed

Check out our website for more information and updates or follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ProtectOurWatershedsCT](https://facebook.com/ProtectOurWatershedsCT)

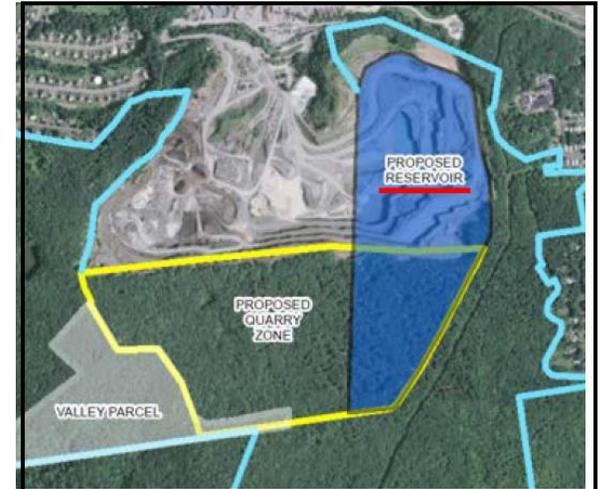
Don't hesitate! Email us for any reason! [protectourwatershedsct@gmail.com](mailto:protectourwatershedsct@gmail.com)

#### Our sources:

- [**NYTimes**] Wacker, Tim. "Clash Over Land and Water." The New York Times. April 05, 2008.
- [**sb1661**] Substitute Senate Bill No. 300. Public Act No. 16-61. An Act Concerning and Environmental Study on a Change in Use of New Britain Water Company Land. Approved May 26, 2016.
- [**3/7/16**] Stewart, Erin E, Mayor of the City of New Britain. Testimony on Senate Bill No. 300. March 7<sup>th</sup> 2016.
- [**RB 300**] Raised Bill No. 300. An Act Concerning New Britain Water Company Land. LCO No. 1900. February Session, 2016.
- [**census.gov**] Census.gov. US Census Bureau. New Britain city, Connecticut, QuickFacts.
- [**LS**] Proposal for Environmental Study and Water Supply Planning for Proposed Quarry Reservoir. Lenard Engineering, James E. Ericson to New Britain Water Dept., Gilbert Bligh. June 17, 2016.
- [**vsDEEP**] Knight, Peter. "Connecticut Supreme Court Dials Back CT DEEP's Authority Over Permit Applications." Northeast Development Law Blog. August 28, 2015.

## Protect Our Watersheds CT

As in 2007, Tilcon is trying to extend their quarry onto the state-protected land just north of Crescent Lake...



...Tilcon is seeking an exemption from CT State Law to destroy protected land. Others will surely follow their example.

...clean, naturally filtered water will be reduced in our reservoirs.

...Bradley Mountain and the ecosystem it fosters will be permanently damaged.

## Time to speak up.

## What's the big deal?

- Tilcon needs to have legislation passed before proceeding because under present laws, their plan is illegal.
- Allowing watershed land to be mined will invite more private interests to exploit our laws and 100,000 more acres of protected lands throughout our state.
- It's trading public land for private profit; the land in the alleged donation is already unspoiled natural space.
- Tilcon plans to pay New Britain, a city with a 23.3% poverty rating, to nullify its water protection laws.<sup>[census.gov]</sup>
- There will be a reduction of clean, naturally filtered water into Shuttle Meadow Reservoir and Crescent Lake.
- Vernal pools, bird breeding sites, rare species of plants will be permanently destroyed. Water flow to what survives will be dramatically decreased.
- Tilcon's massive prolonged drainage from the aquifer beneath their quarry will cut well water supplies in Plainville.
- The quarrying plan will last 40 to 50 years<sup>[RB 300][LS]</sup>, that's half a century of quarrying before we get a reservoir.
- Tilcon has a history of resisting environmental regulators, so why should we

believe any of their claims in the first place?  
<sup>[vsDEEP]</sup>

**It doesn't take \$337,000 in taxes to figure out that blowing up a mountain is bad for the environment.**

In 2007 - 2008, Tilcon proposed to expand their Bradley Mountain quarry further into the Metacomet Ridge, owned by the City of New Britain. New Britain would receive a payment of \$15 million from Tilcon once watershed protection laws were changed in their favor, and Tilcon proposed a potential reservoir once finished quarrying.<sup>[NYTimes]</sup> At the time, the plan received plenty of support from the current mayor, Tim Stewart.<sup>[NYTimes]</sup>

Thanks to a tremendous backlash from concerned citizens, the plan was scrapped, or so we thought.

In 2016, new legislation was introduced, rejected, resurrected, and passed as Public Act 16-61. "The city of New Britain shall commission an environmental study, to be conducted by an independent third party... Such study shall examine the potential impact of the city of New Britain changing the use of said city's water company-owned class I and class II land to allow... the extraction of stone and other minerals on such property."<sup>[SB1661]</sup> Once the study was released, the plan would undergo public approval. After approval, Tilcon would reportedly donate land as open space land to New Britain, Plainville, and Southington for their compliance.<sup>[RB 300]</sup> This

land was (and still is) untouched green space, probably because Tilcon cannot use it for quarrying.

Present Mayor Erin Stewart, you guessed it, daughter of Tim Stewart, said regarding the bill "By allowing the City of New Britain to lease 131.4 acres of water company property to Tilcon, we will fulfill this wish of our residents and secure a new clean water reservoir that will benefit New Britain and long term the entire region."<sup>[3/7/16]</sup> That's right, the quarry off I-84 and Route 72, formerly full of diesel trucks, will somehow secure clean drinking water. Oddly enough, the rich soil and expansive plant life on Bradley Mountain has been doing for that job for free.

The legislation passed in Senate Bill No. 300 promised an environmental study, but the one presented was far more of a reservoir feasibility study than the environmental impact research we were promised. After countless citizens, scientists, and environmentalists spoke out, the study was forcibly altered. Now the CT Council of Environmental Quality is influencing the content of what will be studied.

Only after all the spending, quarrying, and habitat destruction, in 40 or 50 years<sup>[RB 300] [LS]</sup> do we get a *potential* reservoir. This plan is not about water, it's about Tilcon quarrying on protected watershed land.

**Let your State Reps and local**

**Legislators know what how you feel  
and say NO to the quarry deal!**