



Letter to the Editor

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GOVERNOR CHRISTIE'S APPROPRIATE VETO

Dear Editor:

Jeff Tittel is mistaken and mischaracterizes important issues in his letter, "[Christie wrong on polluted well legislation.](#)"

S-576 would have required the state, through the Spill Compensation Fund, to cover the costs of operating and maintaining a point of entry treatment (POET) system to mitigate well water contamination to all Spill Fund covered property owners in perpetuity. Under current NJDEP regulations developed by the Corzine Administration, the costs of installing and maintaining the POET system with Spill Fund dollars are only provided to the owners of a property at the time the contamination is discovered.

The NJDEP's reasoning for not extending the Spill Fund paid maintenance of POET systems is sound. When a buyer purchases a property with a POET system, a working water treatment system that was paid for by the Spill Fund is included. A subsequent buyer was not damaged by the contamination and he or she has notice of the situation, as required by the Private Well Testing Act, and can make an informed decision about purchasing the property in its current condition.

The Spill Fund pays for a POET system only when a party responsible for the contamination cannot be identified.

The members of the Chemistry Council take full responsibility for remediating contaminated well water when at fault. The few taxpayers subject to the Spill Tax should not be required to pay for the perpetual maintenance of a POET system for contamination that those companies did not cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hal Bozarth".

Hal Bozarth
Executive Director

The Chemistry Council of New Jersey (CCNJ), founded in 1955, is the premier trade and advocacy organization representing the interests of about 75 New Jersey manufacturers in the business of chemistry. Our membership consists of large and small companies that are part of New Jersey's chemical, pharmaceutical, consumer packages goods, petroleum refining, flavor & fragrances and precious metals industries. The CCNJ is committed to a better quality of life through science.