against supermarket

package raw meats, fruit and vegetables — most local firms have decided to use substitutes because it is hard to find an outlet to handle the material after it is recycled. Super Saver, a grocery store on Main Street, for instance, now uses paperboard to package fruits and vegetables.

Polystyrene foam is bad for the environment because it clogs up landfills and takes many years to decay.

"All we have asked for is an act of good faith to address the needed changes to alternate product or recycling. We have allowed Finast in excess of six months to develop a plan . . . It seems to me that if McDonald's, Burger King, A&P, et al can plan and implement compliance policy, then Finast should be able to make a good faith effort . . .," Dove wrote to attorney Daniel N. Mara of Hartford.

Dove said yesterday he has a meeting with Mara next Wednesday to discuss recycling. If Finast has complied with the ordinance, Dove said the company will not have to pay anything. However, if Dove is not satisfied, the firm will be penalized $100 a day, retroactive to July 1, he said.

On July 4, Finast, located on Route 44, installed a cardboard box at the store for consumers to return cleaned polystyrene trays.

However, Community Lawyer Charlene LaVoie, who drafted the ordinance, is dissatisfied with Finast's recycling attempt. The store should follow the lead of its corporate neighbors that switched to an alternate product, she said.

"The burden to recycle is not on the consumer; the burden is on the vendor," LaVoie said. "What's the point of having a recycling ordinance if most of the polystyrene goes out the door?"