

**STATE OF MAINE
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

Department Agriculture Conservation and Forestry
Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning
Maine Geological Survey
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DATE: June 4, 2020

TO: Naomi Kirk-Lawler, Senior Planner, Land Use Planning
Commission

FROM: Daniel B. Locke, Hydrogeologist, Licensed Professional Geologist,
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Daniel B. Locke

SUBJECT: *Review of Zoning Petition to Terminate the Moosehead Region
Concept Plan*

As a part of the Maine Geological Survey's (MGS's) agreement with the Land Use Planning Commission, Maine (LUPC) concerning agency technical review, I am providing comments on the following document(s) as provided by or forwarded by your agency:

***Review of Zoning Petition to Terminate the Moosehead Region
Concept Plan***

After an examination of the submitted materials and application, I respectfully offer the following comments:

1. All drilled wells, geothermal systems, and subsurface wastewater disposal systems must be installed in conformance with all applicable laws, regulations, and best management practices (BMPs). Where surface waters are likely to be impacted by runoff during the installation process BMPs should be employed. It is strongly recommended that applicable contractors be certified in erosion and sedimentation control (<https://www.maine.gov/dep/land/training/ecp-certification.html>). It should be noted that contractors must be certified through this program when working within the Shoreland Zone! Where possible it is also strongly recommended that certified subsurface wastewater disposal system installers be utilized when septic systems are built or certified inspectors used when properties are sold

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/plumb/lists.htm>).

2. While dug wells are not regulated, it is strongly recommended that all BMPs pertaining to erosion and sedimentation control are followed.

3. It is recommended to the extent possible that double walled home heating oil tanks are encouraged to be used for new construction and replacement(<https://www.maine.gov/dep/waste/abovegroundtanks/doublewall.html>). They cost more money than regular tanks, but they protect both the environment and liability of the property owner.

4. In many cases, electrical generators are used as a sole source of off-grid power or as a source of emergency stand-by power. If the powerplants use gasoline or fuel oil/diesel, it is recommended that a form of secondary containment is utilized. Also, fuel lines should be sleeved to protect against puncture or crushing. Where possible and practical, generators fueled by propane should be encouraged. Solar-powered electrical systems should be encouraged where practical.

5. Areas underlain by sand and gravel aquifers and areas having shallow overburden lend themselves to be vulnerable to ground water contamination. To the extent possible, these areas should be especially protected against the spillage/leakage of petroleum fuels, lubricating oils, and solvents.

6. Refueling of heavy equipment such as rock/gravel crushers, loaders, bulldozers, wood harvesting equipment, skidders, and chippers should be accomplished with great care and attention as clean-up of spills are often more challenging and difficult in remote settings. Onsite fuel storage should follow Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) regulations and BMPs. Where possible, secondary containment tanks should be used. In other cases, fueling should be accomplished via fuel trucks.

7. To the extent possible and practical, access ways to gravel pits and log landing areas should be kept gated when they are not actively being used. Ungated pits and log yards lend themselves to being dumping grounds for garbage, tires, furniture, white goods, and the general dumping of contaminants.

It has been a pleasure examining this application and providing comment. I hope that interested/concerned parties find this review of use. If there are any questions, please call me at 207-287-7171 or e-mail me at Daniel.B.Locke@maine.gov .