



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lane Gould, State of Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services/Bureau of General Services
Brian Pierce, P.E., Sevee & Maher Engineers, Inc.

FROM: Vera Maheu, Project Manager
Maine DEP, Solid Materials Management Unit

DATE: September 3, 2026

SUBJECT: Juniper Ridge Expansion II Leachate Management

The Department is in the process of reviewing the following document:

Phase II Expansion Application, Juniper Ridge Landfill, Volume III, Design Report, Prepared for State of Maine Bureau of General Services as Owner and NEWSME Landfill Operations, LLC as Operator, by Sevee & Maher Engineers, Inc., November 2025 ("Volume III").

06-096 C.M.R. ch. 401, § 2(F)(5) requires the applicant to submit a description of the leachate management method selected. Section 2.2.5 of Volume III (pdf page 20) states:

"From this tank, leachate will be pumped to the PFAS treatment plant. After the PFAS removal, the treated leachate will be stored in a third leachate storage tank (size to be determined as part of the PFAS treatment system final design) and subsequently removed via tanker truck and disposed of at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) for the Old Town Mill owned by ND Paper Old Town LLC, or other permitted wastewater treatment facilities."

Section 3.3 of Volume III (pdf page 43) states:

"Leachate generated by the JRL will be pumped to either the existing on-site leachate storage tank or a second tank that will be added prior to waste disposal in Cell 18. Leachate will be pumped from these two pretreatment storage tanks into the PFAS treatment plant. After treatment, the leachate will be pumped to a post-treatment storage tank and then trucked to either the wastewater treatment plant at the Old Town Mill, which is currently owned by ND Paper ... or other permitted wastewater treatment facilities."

On August 28, 2026, the Department received the following document:

Opposition of Bureau of General Services and NEWSME Landfill Operations, LLC to Intervenor's Request for Modification of Hearing Schedule and Licensing Application, submitted by Brian Rayback of Dentons Bingham Greenbaum LLP, dated August 28, 2026 ("Opposition Document").

Section II.C of the Opposition Document states: "NEWSME does not intend to seek licensure of the PFAS treatment system through *this* licensing process because the system will not be located at JRL." It further states: "Although the project is still under consideration and subject to change, NEWSME currently plans to install the PFAS treatment system at the nearby Pine Tree Landfill in Hampden, subject to obtaining all required approvals and agreements. NEWSME will seek Department approval by amending the solid waste facility license for that landfill."

The Department concurs that a separate license application is appropriate for the PFAS treatment system as it will be located at a different Department-licensed solid waste facility. However, in order to properly address leachate management in the Expansion II license application, updated information must be submitted pertaining to leachate management. Please provide the following:

1. The selected location of the PFAS treatment system.
2. A brief description of the process by which leachate will be conveyed to the PFAS treatment system.
3. A brief description of the process by which PFAS treated leachate will be transported to a licensed wastewater treatment plant for further treatment and disposal.
4. If the PFAS treatment system will not be located at the Juniper Ridge Landfill, then updated drawings (without the proposed location of the PFAS treatment system) must be provided for clarity.
5. An updated PFAS treatment system implementation schedule.

The Department also notes that the leachate disposal contract with ND Paper Old Town LLC will soon expire. A new contract must be provided to the Department to fulfill normal operational requirements.

Additional comments on the entire Phase II Expansion application will be provided by the Department at a future date. The updated drawings requested in item 4 above may be submitted with responses to the Department's forthcoming comments.

Please contact me at vera.a.maheu@maine.gov or 207-451-2294 should you have any questions or concerns.

Cc: Kathy Tarbuck, P.E., MEDEP
Sean Dougherty, L.G., MEDEP
Service List