



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

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: October 5, 2026

SUBJECT: Juniper Ridge Expansion II Leachate Management Submittal Dated
September 18, 2026

Thank you for your comment response letter dated September 18, 2026, which was submitted in response to the Department's September 3, 2026 memorandum requesting clarification regarding your proposed plans for PFAS treatment of leachate from JRL. For ease of reference, a brief summary of your letter and the Department's current understanding of the facts follows:

- The current plan is to locate the PFAS treatment system at the Pine Tree Landfill ("PTL"), a Department-licensed solid waste facility, in Hampden rather than at the JRL site.
- As is the current practice, landfill leachate will continue to be pumped to, and temporarily stored in, on-site aboveground leachate storage tanks at the JRL site prior to being transported to PTL.
- The siting of a PFAS treatment system for leachate at PTL enables both JRL's and PTL's leachate to be treated for PFAS concurrently.
- As is the current practice, leachate from JRL will be transported via tanker trucks.
- Once JRL's leachate arrives at PTL, it would be transferred in a secure location to a leachate storage tank. Leachate will subsequently be pumped through the proposed PFAS treatment system. Treated leachate will then be pumped to a separate holding tank in preparation for off-site conveyance for further treatment at a Department-licensed wastewater treatment facility.
- At this time, it is not known whether PFAS-treated leachate will be conveyed through existing piping at PTL ultimately to the City of Bangor's wastewater treatment facility or loaded into tanker trucks and sent to another licensed wastewater treatment facility.

- Updated drawings for the JRL Expansion II landfill application were provided with the PFAS treatment system removed; however, the transport piping and one additional leachate storage tank remains as part of the design.
- An updated PFAS treatment system implementation schedule was provided showing the submittal of an application to the Department for the PFAS leachate treatment system at PTL on or about December 1, 2026.
- A finalized disposal contract for JRL's leachate will be provided to the Department such that a valid contract is maintained at all times.

While the separate application for the PFAS leachate treatment system is being prepared and since the requirement for a PFAS treatment system is inextricably linked to JRL, the PBD, and the proposed expansion, it would be helpful to have some further technical details regarding the proposed PFAS treatment system. The Department also intends to require a demonstration of the PFAS treatment system to be conducted in an effort to quantify, to the extent practicable, the effectiveness of the system for the treatment of PFAS similar to a "best available control technology" concept. As a result of this type of analysis which centers on a maximum achievable contaminant reduction given several considerations, including but not limited to, economics, environmental impacts, and limits and feasibility of design, technology, and construction, it is likely that the Department will impose some kind of treatment standard.

In order for the Department to evaluate how and to what extent the proposed PFAS treatment system will effectively treat the leachate from the proposed expansion of JRL, the Department must know and understand the technology that is being proposed for the PFAS treatment system, which PFAS are proposed to be treated by the system (i.e., long-chain, short-chain), and to what extent the proposed system is expected to reduce PFAS concentrations. To the extent that this information is already available, please provide this information as soon as possible.

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