



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

June 24, 2024

Chief Kirk Francis
Penobscot Indian Nation
12 Wabanaki Way
Indian Island, ME 04468

Dear Chief Francis,

On June 10, 2024, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Department) received an application for a Determination of Public Benefit ("PBD application") regarding a proposed expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill in Old Town pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S. § 1310-AA. In accordance with 38 M.R.S. § 1310-AA, the Department only has 60 days to issue a decision on the PBD application after it is accepted as complete.

The Department understands that the Penobscot Indian Nation has concerns related to the Juniper Ridge Landfill and is offering a listening session with the Penobscot Indian Nation to hear comments and concerns from the Nation's leaders and members specific to the recent PBD application. Commissioner Loyzim, Remediation and Waste Management Bureau Director Miller, and other Department representatives could meet with you at a location of your choosing as soon as we can set a mutually agreeable date and time, preferably by early July.

The procedure related to the PBD application includes public notice and opportunity for public comment. The Department will also hold a public listening session on July 16 in Orono to solicit comments from any interested member of the public. Written public comments will be accepted until August 23, 2024. The Department will publish information related to the process on our website at [Juniper Ridge Landfill, Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management, Maine Department of Environmental Protection](https://www.maine.gov/dep/remediation-and-waste-management/juniper-ridge-landfill)

If you would like to meet, please let me know who is the most appropriate contact with the Penobscot Indian Nation to work with on scheduling. I can be reached at bill.j.sheehan@maine.gov or 207-760-3136.

Thank you

Bill Sheehan, Tribal Liaison
Director, Northern Maine Region
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
1235 Central Drive
Presque Isle, ME 04769

cc: Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner, MDEP
David Madore, Deputy Commissioner, MDEP
Susanne Miller, Director Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management, MDEP
Carla Hopkins, Director Division of Materials Management, MDEP
Karen Knuuti, Division of Materials Management, MDEP
Representative Aaron Dana
Ambassador Maulian Bryant, Penobscot Indian Nation

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