

From: [Karin](#)
To: [Knuuti, Karen](#)
Subject: RE: Juniper Ridge Expansion
Date: Friday, August 30, 2024 3:48:10 PM

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

September 2, 2024

RE: Proposed expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill

Dear Ms. Knuuti:

I support the arguments made by the Penobscot Nation and the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) in their joint letter of July 31, 2024.

After a careful review of the facts composing the context for Casella Waste System's expansion request, we submit that the pollution control, "public benefit," and "environmental justice" criteria required by the application process can only be satisfied if the following conditions are met.

- <!--[if !supportLists]-->1) <!--[endif]-->Stop new discharges of PFAS. Any leachate from JRL must be treated in a system that is proven to reduce concentration of PFAS to a level that protects the public health and the biodiversity of the receiving waters.
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->2) <!--[endif]-->Stop accepting waste Massachusetts will not treat itself. Casella must present a plan to significantly reduce the volume of Construction & Demolition Debris (CDD) it accepts from out-of-state sources in order to extend the life of JRL and reduce the likelihood that waste flows from the landfill will contain the toxic contaminants that are so pervasive in this type of bulking material. Other in-state source of appropriate bulking materials must be found or developed.
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->3) <!--[endif]-->Do not ignore Maine's reduction and recycling goals. The current Casella proposal must be amended to satisfy Maine's Solid Waste Hierarchy mandating waste reduction, diversion, and recycling. Continued failure to meet the statutory reduction and recycling goals in 38 M.R.S.A. Sec. 2132 is unacceptable.
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->4) <!--[endif]-->Do not set a low bar for "meaningful involvement." As DEP requirements now include "environmental justice" in determinations of the "Public Benefit," it is especially important that the Department set a high standard for Public Benefit...one that includes the concept of "meaningful involvement" proposed by CLF and the Penobscot Nation. We cannot say it any clearer than you find it in their July 31st letter.

Solid waste reduction, reuse, and recycling are now unavoidable if human society is going to recognize and protect the interconnected nature of our communities. As a species, humanity must honor and protect the Web of Life in which we exist...and in which we will only thrive if we live in harmony with the rest of the natural world. Don't let the potential

expansion of Juniper Ridge Landfill dig us — literally — into a deeper hole of degradation!

Karin Spitfire
P.O. Box 53
Belfast, Me 04915