

From: [Débora Paredes Martinez](#)
To: [Khuuti, Karen](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT JRL PBD
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Hello! I am submitting a public comment to oppose the expansion of Juniper Ridge Landfill. I am a resident of Unity in Waldo Co.

Previously I lived in the Orono/Old Town area for almost a decade, in that time I experienced the devastating and frustrating effects of the Juniper Ridge Landfill.

I am genuinely astounded that the landfill even exists so close to Penobscot Nation land. Expansion of the landfill exacerbates the effects already present in the Penobscot River and the surrounding wildlife.

Located just a short way upstream from Indian Island, Juniper Ridge Landfill, a state-owned landfill, is situated between two streams - Pushaw and Birch Streams, both flowing into the Penobscot just north and west of Indian Island. Penobscot Nation is in the bullseye for another potential disaster. The Landfill already has proven to affect the air, land, and water as we have seen literal fires at the landfill and no accountability for it. Moreover the Landfill continues to bring out of state waste into the facility, which does not reflect the will of hardworking Mainers in the area.

DEP should reject the expansion and instead work to better support the landfill in functioning in the least harmful and destructive way. DEP should be protecting Indigenous peoples and the natural beauty of the state, not wrecking it.

thank you for the opportunity to comment,,

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Deb Paredes (They/Elle/She) [why pronouns matter](#)
Unceded Wabanaki Territory