

From: [Susan Hillman Bourne](#)
To: [DEP Rule Comments](#); [Hilary Koch](#)
Subject: Juniper Ridge Landfill...closing the loophole
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 11:03:37 AM

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.

Good Morning,

I am a resident of Maine and very concerned that out-of-state trash is being dumped in our state along with our own trash. Here is what I ask:

1. I am asking to add definitions to the DEP rules around environmental justice in order to protect Maine communities from additional pollution and to ensure that the Penobscot Nation can meaningfully participate in the decision-making process. It is my understanding that the Penobscot Nation and working class residents living near the Juniper Ridge Landfill have systematically been excluded from the decision-making process, and experience an unfair risk to their health from the impacts of the landfill on the local environment. This is absolutely unacceptable to me.

2. I am asking for an accurate definition of Maine waste, clarifying that it is waste *generated* within the state of Maine, not just waste *processed* here. Juniper Ridge is a state-owned landfill that is only supposed to receive Maine waste, but because of a loophole, it is estimated that [40% of its waste is from other states](#). According to the Maine Conservation Voters, surrounding states have tightened their waste regulations to protect their own residents' health, and have started shipping their hazardous, banned waste into Maine. It is time that the state of Maine works harder to protect the health of our own residents and stop making us the dumping grounds of the Northeast. I want the state of Maine to work diligently to preserve the natural beauty of Maine **and** to protect the health of all who live and work here!

Thank you for continuing to ensure the safety, health and welfare of all Maine residents by closing the out-of-state trash loophole. I would like to be updated on this issue.

Susan Hillman Bourne

15 Mount Merici Ave

Waterville, Maine 04901