

From: [Jensen Cowan](#)
To: [DEP Rule Comments](#)
Subject: Comment on Chapter 400: Maine Solid Waste Management Rules
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 12:36:18 PM

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Dear Chair Draper and the Board of Environmental Protection,

My name is Jensen and I am writing to you in support of the proposed amendments to Chapter 400: Solid Waste Management Rules.

I work with the Post-Landfill Action Network (PLAN), a national network of college and university campuses working towards a world without waste. We create long-term, sustainable solutions to wasteful systems and oppose the investment in landfills and incinerators, both in theory and in practice.

Over the last 6 years, we have gathered our staff and interns in Old Town Maine to learn from the folks who have been struggling to live in the proximity of the Juniper Ridge Landfill. We have learned of their fight for their right to clean air and water through them sharing with us the beauty of the Penobscot River.

I write to you today to show my support for the community in their fight against the loophole that allows Maine to have become a dumping ground for the region and support their call for a new definition for Maine waste as waste *generated within* the state of Maine.

Across the world and in Maine, waste facilities disproportionately impact indigenous communities, communities of color, and low-income communities. We need to add definitions to the DEP rules around Environmental Justice -- because this is a matter of Environmental Justice -- in order to protect communities from environmental pollution, as well as all people's right to enjoy a healthy environment.

Thank you for your time,

Jensen Cowan
Director of Engagement of the Post-Landfill Action Network

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You can schedule a meeting with me [here](#).

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