

September 27, 2020

TO: Maine Board of Environmental Protection

RE: Chapter 400 Petition to Modify Maine's Solid Waste Management Rules

Dear Members of the BEP,

I have been following and involved in the ongoing Juniper Ridge Landfill saga for well over a decade. This letter is written to encourage you to adopt the changes to Chapter 400 rules.

It has become increasingly apparent that the State of Maine is not operating in the best interest of its citizens by way of this mega-landfill. The landfill is situated just upriver from Penobscot Nation, and between two major streams that feed into the Penobscot River – Pushaw Stream and Birch Stream. Citizens have worked tirelessly to try to keep this behemoth in check with little success. We are fast becoming the dumping grounds for all of New England and this is a shameful and dangerous direction to be heading.

Drastic changes need to be made for the safety, health, and well-being of all people living along the Penobscot River and in the vicinity of the landfill as well as for the safety of the water – the river and the underground aquifers that are located in the vicinity of JRL. How can we justify trucking landfill leachate to the Old Town Mill (Nine Dragons) to be “processed” and then pour it directly into the river, especially during a period of time where water is in scarce supply?

Business as usual has got to stop. We cannot continue allowing our state to be the garbage disposal for the rest of New England, at the expense of the citizens, and at a profit to industry.

Please adopt changes to Chapter 400 as put forth in Petition to Modify Maine's Solid Waste Management Rules.

Sincerely,



Maria Girouard

Resident, Indian Island, Penobscot Nation