

2 Nohkomess St., Apt 201
Old Town, ME 04468

September 27, 2020

To: Members of the Maine Board of Environmental Protection
Re: Out of state waste disposal

Dear Members of the Board,

My name is Kathy Paul, Penobscot Elder from Penobscot Nation. I have lived on the reservation all of my life. When I was a little girl, we swam and even ate the fish. My mom and dad would send us out to fish for our supper. As years passed and mills were popping up everywhere the river was being fed toxins that were not regulated until the Penobscot Nation started monitoring and testing the water. I am proud of my people because the river is looking pristine and the children can swim once again. I do not think that we will ever be able to eat the fish but to be able to swim is a good thing.

Over the years I have attended many meetings and observed how Casella was able to make out of state trash, Maine trash and I became concerned about it all. I am even more concerned because the BEP is trying to change policy that would allow for out of state trash. I believe that this makes my community and other surrounding communities vulnerable to the possibilities of river pollution and contamination of our drinking water. What will happen to future generations?

I hope that the board will see that the State of Maine is not a dumping ground for other people's trash. Please think about the future generation and preserve what we have left. The excessive dumping of leachate will hurt the river causing it to become toxic, affecting all of us. Please take the time to think about what all of this means to Penobscot people and our neighbors in Alton, and Argyle. Please say no to out of state trash.

Respectfully

Kathy Paul
Penobscot Elder