

From: [Austin Reynolds](#)
To: [DEP Rule Comments](#)
Subject: Comment on Chapter 400: Maine Solid Waste Management Rules
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:15:43 PM

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Dear Chair Draper and the Board of Environmental Protection,

I'm writing to you to strongly urge you to get rid of the loophole in Maine's legislature allowing out-of-state waste to be thrown into Maine's state landfill.

In 2017, over 136,000 tons of out-of-state waste classified as construction and demolition debris, which is banned from Massachusetts landfills, ended up in the Juniper Ridge Landfill. In addition, sludges containing PFAS coming from out of state are being dumped there and are very likely having negative impacts on downstream communities. We know that waste facilities around the world disproportionately impact indigenous communities, communities of color, and low-income communities. It is absolutely unfair for these communities to be forced to deal with the negative health and environmental impacts that this waste brings with it.

It is clear that Maine needs to change it's definition of waste to include ONLY waste created within the state of Maine. I urge you to please do what is necessary to make this change.

Sincerely,

Austin Reynolds