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Subject: Comments in Support of CLF's Appeal of WMDSM Crossroads Landfill license
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Good Afternoon,

I wanted to alert the service list of Community Action Work's support of Conservation Law Foundations Appeal of Waste Management's Crossroads Landfill in Norridgewock. The current permitted expansion of a new 48.6 acre landfill threatens the public health and environment. We opposed and continue to oppose this expansion. Stronger steps must be taken to protect our communities and environment, and we stand by the arguments and concerns laid out in CLF Appeal.

At Community Action Works, we believe that environmental threats are big, but the power of well-organized community groups is bigger. That's why we work side by side with everyday people to confront those who are polluting and harming the health of our communities.

From our work in frontline communities, we know that there is every reason to be concerned about the effects of waste facilities on public health and the environment. The EPA has said that all landfills eventually leak, which means that claims that "state of the art technology" will protect our groundwater and our communities are not true.

That being said, we have serious concerns about the waste that has been approved to be buried at the Phase 14 Expansion at the Crossroads Landfill facility. As we know, incinerator ash, construction and demolition debris, and asbestos containing waste threaten public health and the environment.

Furthermore, around the country, scientists are raising the alarms about the toxic forever chemical, per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). While these chemicals are not naturally occurring, this man-made chemical has found its way into our drinking water and environment through leaking landfills and leachate discharge. This is particularly alarming as PFAS have been linked to serious health effects across the board, like testicular and kidney cancer, thyroid disease, birth abnormalities, and other diseases. In the past few years, we have seen the devastating impacts of PFAS contamination in communities across the state like in Fairfield and Corinna. If leachate leaks out at the Crossroads Facility, it is positioned to create a similar threat in the Norridgewock area, poisoning the water of nearby drinking wells and the Kennebec River. We should not risk this.

We urge the Board of Environmental Protection to heed the concerns of impacted Mainers and take stronger action to protect our environment by supporting this

appeal. We hope the Board holds a public hearing on the issue to ensure this process is transparent and that the public has adequate opportunity to comment.

Lastly, as public health has come to the forefront amid the pandemic, we hope you take meaningful action to manage our waste better, but more importantly protect our communities better. Thank you.



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