

October 11, 2016

To:

DEP NRPA PERMIT [-Lynn.a.caron@maine.gov](mailto:Lynn.a.caron@maine.gov)

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Dear Responsible Parties In Charge of

- Maintaining a clean environment for the people of the State of Maine
- Maintaining the Clean Water Act of the USA,
- Upholding Treaties with Penobscot Nation that guarantee sustenance fishing rights.

I am writing you to oppose the expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill. The land is owned by the State but the landfill is managed by a corporate entity, which must insure profits for it's stakeholders as it's primary mandate, rather than ensure clean water for future generations.

I do not speak the language of legalese and bureaucratic requirements of this application, that you must and do is something I appreciate, thank you.

I speak the language of the body-Anatomy and Physiology. We are 70% water. While you might ingest drinks laced with sugar, chemicals, alcohol, would you drink a thimble full of battery acid or paint thinner? Would you drink it with the benefit of a dental dam barrier? Would you add toxins to the water in your body on purpose?

We are 70% water. Water, the sea our cells swim in. Our cells, the small living structures that do everything to keep us alive, are also primarily water. Water in the rivers/bloodstream of our body carry oxygen and nutrients to capillary beds which the bodies wetlands, where all the exchange of nutrients, oxygen, cellular creations, and waste are exchange from capillary to extracellular fluid to intracellular fluid and vise versa. Then the capillaries merge again to rivers and carry the cellular creations to other cells and the waste to organs that excrete it out of the body. This waste for eons before industrialization was completely useful and metabolized by other living beings.

Say you had a capillary bed at the top left corner of your heart where the Aorta, the bodies' biggest river begins, and you thought that was a good place to store some waste other people made, cause it had to go somewhere. Modern medicine and technology made it possible to put a liner around the bed. and inject it say the acrylic paint waste of your favorite artist. This capillary bed would die, and so would the area of the heart that it fed. Is this a good deal? Do you believe, want to take the risk that the liner would hold the waste for the rest of your life, and it would not seep into the left atria or the aorta?

In your language:

Chapter 400 of DEB Solid Waste Management Rules Licensing Criteria, Section D, “Licensing Criteria for Solid Waste Facilities.” specifies the Department shall issue a license only when it finds, bases on substantial evidence in the record, the solid waste facility will not contaminate any water of the State.

By the companies own admission they are filling in wetlands and vernal pools, ie contaminating water of the state. I quote for the BDN (By [Nok-Noi Ricker](#), BDN Staff Posted Sept. 23, 2015, at 5:31 p.m.)

“The operator of a local landfill is offering the city a 266-acre conservation easement to offset its displacing about two acres of wetlands and vernal pools as part of a major expansion of the waste disposal area. Mitigating the effects on wetlands and vernal pools is a required part of the [plan to double the capacity of Juniper Ridge Landfill](#), and Casella Waste Systems is prepared to create a conservation easement near the landfill, officials say.

The above language in Chapter 400 does not say mitigate. it says shall not contaminate.

As a speaker of the language of common sense all one has to hear is the plan to fill in wetlands and vernal pools as part of a major expansion of the waste disposal area to see that a negative “ impact” will occur “to protected natural resources including wetlands.” or look at a map to see the dumps proximity to the Penobscot River and the obvious fact of anyone who knows anything about how water travels that there will be breakage in the liner, and over flow and it will be run off and damage the water quality of the Penobscot River and other water in the area.

I do not want any further degradation of water anywhere, cause water quality from rain, to ground water to river to sea, effects my health/life and the health and life of all living things now and into the future. But expanding Juniper Ridge Landfill specifically further threatens damaging the water quality of the Penobscot River and unequally poses a burden on the remaining people’s of the Penobscot Nation and their sustenance fishing rights, i.e. their means to continue living. The allowance of this expansion would effect us all, but it disproportionately effects the Penobscot Nation. This is an issue of Environmental justice, and I for one want to stop any further threat to Penobscot Nations people.

For the sake of clean water now, for the sake of the Penobscot Nation and for future of all generations I urge you to deny this expansion. Do not drink battery acid.

Sincerely Karin F. Spitfire
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