

SENATE

THOMAS B. SAVIELLO, DISTRICT 17, CHAIR
AMY VOLK, DISTRICT 30
GEOFFREY M. GRATWICK, DISTRICT 9

DANIEL TARTAKOFF, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
DYLAN SINCLAIR, COMMITTEE CLERK



HOUSE

RALPH L. TUCKER, BRUNSWICK, CHAIR
ROBERT S. DUCHESNE, HUDSON
JOHN L. MARTIN, EAGLE LAKE
DENISE PARTICIA HARLOW, PORTLAND
JESSICA L. FAY, RAYMOND
STANLEY PAIGE ZEIGLER, JR., MONTVILLE
JONATHAN L. KINNEY, LIMINGTON
RICHARD H. CAMPBELL, ORRINGTON
JEFFREY K. PIERCE, DRESDEN
SCOTT WALTER STROM, PITTSFIELD

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

January 17, 2018

Paul Mercer, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Re: Juniper Ridge landfill license amendment application filed 11/27/17

Dear Commissioner Mercer:

We understand that the State, acting through the Bureau of General Services, and Casella/NEWSME have recently submitted an application to amend the existing license for MSW disposal at Juniper Ridge landfill to allow for the continued disposal after March 31, 2018 of up to 81,800 tons of MSW – a figure provided for in a 2014 amendment to the landfill license.

Although action on this application is of course a purely regulatory matter, the Department's decision on this proposal will undoubtedly impact the waste management industry in the State for at least a number of years. Our Committee has and will continue to work within the legislative context to ensure that the State's laws and rules regarding solid waste management and the operation of the State-owned landfills best support the State's solid waste management hierarchy. Given our Committee's interest in this application, we would ask that you keep us informed as to its status as the legislative session progresses.

Moreover, given the interest this application will garner in the communities surrounding Juniper Ridge landfill, we would ask that, in the near future, the Department hold at least one public meeting in those surrounding communities to ensure that the citizens of those communities are informed about the application and the Department is advised as to any concerns those citizens might have.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our committee analyst, Dan Tartakoff, at 287-1670.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas Saviello.

Thomas Saviello
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of Ralph Tucker.

Ralph Tucker
House Chair

cc: Members, Environment and Natural Resources Committee