

I am writing in response to answer the question whether Juniper Ridge Landfill expansion is of 'Public Benefit'.

I am a resident of Argyle Township, which is approximately 8 miles by car and 4 miles as the crow flies from the Juniper Ridge Landfill. I used to drive past the Juniper Ridge Landfill (JRL) on Route 16 everyday going to and from work or going into Old Town. I changed my route of travel because I could no longer stomach the disgusting stench coming from the landfill, especially in the morning. I have also changed from using the Alton exit on and off ramps to interstate 95, which is closest entrance and exit to me, to using the Old Town exit to avoid the immediate area of JRL due to the smell and also to avoid the never ending train of JRL dump truck traffic. Even with all this rerouting I am doing, I am not totally avoiding the pit falls of having this landfill basically in my backyard. I smell it all the time. Somedays it is so bad, it smells like an animal died in my house or a septic tank truck spilt in front of my house. Thank goodness I am not any closer to the landfill because I would sell my home even at a loss! That will happen if it expansion happens because the smell, air quality, and garbage truck traffic will double! That is the air pollution and some of the human health issues, now on to other environmental issues. This landfill is situated around two streams that empty into the Penobscot River! Land and air wildlife, fish, and right by the home of the Penobscot Nation. What a chain of reactions that is!! Wildlife like deer and moose drink from the streams and river, eagles eat fish from the streams and river, people eat fish from the streams and river, people eat deer and moose that drank from the streams and river. It is mind boggling why we worked to restore the river only to pollute it more. This is a direct attack on the people and the environment and it must stop here. Maine is no longer 'the way life ought to be', Maine is now a dumping ground for other states!!!

So, if you ask me if I feel the Juniper Ridge Landfill expansion is of 'Public benefit', I ask you, tell me one thing in my story that says it is. Otherwise, I say, the expansion of the Juniper Ridge Landfill is absolutely NOT a public benefit!

Thank you,

Tami Connolly