

**From:** Greg Brown  
**To:** Tarbuck, Kathy  
**Subject:** Public comment on the Juniper Ridge Landfill expansion application  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2016 1:55:13 PM

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Department of Environmental Protection

Attn: Kathy Tarbuck

17 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0017

18 October 2016

Greg Brown

5B Riggs Road

Casco, ME 04015

Dear Ms. Tarbuck,

I'm writing you to submit comment on the proposed Juniper Ridge landfill expansion. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the two scheduled public hearings in Bangor, and yet I still want my voice on record as standing firmly against the proposed expansion and advocating for the following.

- 1) Zero-growth for the Juniper Ridge Landfill
- 2) Full accountability from Casella for the landfill's water and air pollution issues
- 3) And a full audit of waste streams to see how much out-of-state waste is reaching our landfills

This expansion endangers our water. This expansion threatens traditional indigenous hunting and gathering territory around Birch Stream. But it's not just about us. This expansion threatens the Penobscot, too, one of our state's greatest wonders.

I'm a teacher and a writer and believe with utmost conviction that stewardship of the land around us is what we are meant to be using our big human brains for. We can come up with a thousand ways

to use the resource around us. But we should be coming up with the ways to sustain and protect the resources around us. I grew up on the Maine coast in Belfast, among the Penobscot River watershed. I love this state, and perhaps most of all I love that river. I live out in Casco now, and when I drive up to Belfast and a little further on to the narrows near Verona Island I am in awe looking both down the river to my home and up the river towards the territory most threatened by Juniper ridge.

Some places are like portals into eternity. You stand in them and look around and you feel how long and unending the world really is.

The Penobscot River. Massive green and blue glacial boulders pushing their river-rounded backs up through the cold water. Fish leaping into being chasing mayfly hatches spinning just above the surface in the long orange afternoon light. Ancient banks brushed in towering spruce and pines. Well, the Penobscot River is surely one of those places.

Please don't let it come to more harm. Please protect it from the increased risk of waste runoff from an expansion of the landfill at Juniper Ridge.

Sincerely,

Gregory Brown