

Wells Conference Center: Good, alright great! And checking in with our online team? Are we good to go on zoom Wells Conference Center: alright. Wells Conference Center: alright, so good afternoon. Thank you, everybody. For the last few wandered in. I did mention. If you are planning to present comments this afternoon. Wells Conference Center: You'd appreciate it if you had a name to the sign in sheet. So and a little bit, I'll be calling people up in the order that you signed in, and then, if there's anybody else in the room who wants to see who hasn't signed up will be happy to take you at the end. There's also a handout that we had at the front table. That explains the applicable requirements in the Dp rule chapter that are relevant for the Wells Conference Center: public benefit determination application that we'll be discussing today. And I would be asking you to think about as you focus your comments that you'll be presenting to us. Wells Conference Center: So wanna thank you all very much for attending this meeting. We're also having one this evening as well as a virtual online meeting suite. I'm Melanie Boison, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. Today's meeting is being broadcast online and will be recorded. Wells Conference Center: Reporting is going to be available on the Dp website, and you can find the web address for that on the handout you could also just go to Dp's website under our major projects link right from the main page and go to Juniper Ridge, landfill, and all the information related to the process will be going through as well as those that we've done in prior years are all available on that website. Wells Conference Center: So we will have people watching us by zoom. Today, the online attendees will not be able to participate. They're only going to be able to listen. Today. There will be an online public meeting for people to provide additional public comments. Next Friday on June 26, th for anyone who wishes to provide comments orally, but was not able to attend today in person. Wells Conference Center: I would note for all of you in the room, and I'm probably gonna say this again to make sure, I remind myself as well. The whole room in here is miked and so, in addition to what we say into the microphones, everything that you all say to one another out there will also be audible Wells Conference Center: to the people who are listening online and will be part of the recording. So we're not able to control which of the mics are live? So just fair warning to all of you. I would normally say it just as a matter of sort of civil discourse to keep your conversations in the audience to a minimum. But I just also give you all fair warning that if you want to talk about anything personal you might want to take it outside as well. Wells Conference Center: so with that being said I know that there is a lot of interest in this public benefit, determination, application, and concern. So before we get into our agenda. I just wanted to go over a few rules of order so that everybody in the room here are speakers. Today. We've got a pretty small crowd. So I don't think that we need to worry about. Wells Conference Center: Well, that is exactly what I wanted to know is whether or not, people could hear people alright. Thank you. I can hear myself better. Is that better? Okay, thank you. Thank you very much. Wells Conference Center: Is that is it better, he said. He's barely here. Wells Conference Center: You can barely hear. Okay, sorry about that. I think we're at a pretty good volume. If I get louder I might get you out for others. Oh, but we will. I'll try to go slow and make sure I'm being clear as well, so thank you for that. Wells Conference Center: Let's see. So I am going to ask, with the exception of things like that, that as we're going through the presenters this afternoon, and public comments for you all to please be respectful of one another. I'd ask you to refrain from interrupting and from clapping because

it can be hard for other people who are here to be able to hear what's going on. And so, whether you agree or disagree with something that's being said. Wells Conference Center: we do wanna make sure that people can get as much out of it as possible. So for those of you who have difficult hearing, I'm sorry for that, and we will have the reporting so hopefully, if there's any miss that will be helpful. Wells Conference Center: I would also note that today's meeting is not going to be a question and answer session. And so there's not going to be an opportunity for a back and forth with department staff or with the applicant. Your general services. If you have questions after I go through an explanation of what we're going to be doing in terms of process would encourage you to note those questions when you pull up events Wells Conference Center: or submit them. In your written comments to the department, we may not be able to respond to all of those questions. But we will be keeping the website updated. And we will provide additional public information if there are questions that highlight where we need to get more information out to the public about what's going. Wells Conference Center: So first, st I'll go through our agenda. I'm going to introduce the staff from the department or through with us who will be involved in reviewing the application. Then I'm going to explain what main law requires for expanding the landfill, and how today fits into that process. Wells Conference Center: Then the applicant's consultant, receiving our Lisa Turner, will explain what the Bureau of General Services submitted in their application to the Department. Wells Conference Center: and then the remainder of this meeting is for us to hear from you any information you want to share with us that will help the department determine if the application meets the criteria in main law for approval. Wells Conference Center: So with me this afternoon is Suzanne Miller. She's the director of our Bureau of Remediation Waste management. Wells Conference Center: Carla Hopkins, the director of our division of Materials management, and Karen Community, who is the project manager for the application and is also her contact information that is, on that handout she will be the one receiving and compiling and reviewing along with all of us the comments that are submitted. Wells Conference Center: So now I'm going to briefly explain why we're here today. Wells Conference Center: So under main law, expanding the landfill requires 2 separate review processes and decisions by the Department of Environmental Protection. Wells Conference Center: First, st the depart department must determine whether a proposed landfill expansion will provide a substantial public benefit. Wells Conference Center: There's specific criteria in main law. The dB. Must consider to make that decision. Wells Conference Center: If the Department finds the expansion will provide a substantial public benefit. Wells Conference Center: then the landfill owner can submit a license application, and that's the stage, and the department evaluates technical criteria like aspects of the landfill expansion related to engineering design and leachate management. Wells Conference Center: So just wanna make sure that everybody understands that there will be far more technical and engineering details that are part of a subsequent process that comes only if the public benefit determination applications grouped, and it is the public benefit, determination, application. That is the subject of our conversation today. Wells Conference Center: So the State of Maine's Bureau of General Services submitted an application for a public benefit. Determination and Dp. Accepted the application as complete for processing on June 24, th Wells Conference Center: Maywan only gives Eep 60 days to issue a division on this application. Wells Conference Center: So wherever in line for making that decision will be August 23.rd Wells Conference Center: Need to be must determine if the application

satisfies the criteria in main law. Title 38, section 1310 double A, Wells Conference Center: which are the criteria mirrored in Vp's rules and provided for your reference on the handout. Wells Conference Center: The criteria are that a landfill expansion must meet immediate short-term or long-term capacity use of the State. Wells Conference Center: Considering local and regional needs. Wells Conference Center: the regional nature of the developments Wells Conference Center: and use of disposal capacity due to transportation businesses and other factors. Wells Conference Center: It must be consistent with the state waste management and recycling plan, and promote the solid waste hierarchy which is also listed on the handle. Wells Conference Center: It must not be inconsistent with local, regional or state waste, collection, storage, transportation, processing or disposal. Wells Conference Center: and it must not be inconsistent with ensuring environmental justice for the community in which the facility or expansion is proposed. Wells Conference Center: Environmental justice is defined in the law as the rights be protected from environmental pollution and to live in and enjoy a clean and hopeful environment, regardless of ancestry, class visibility, ethnicity, income, national origin, or religion. Wells Conference Center: Environmental justice includes the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of waste management laws, rules, regulations, and licensing decisions. Wells Conference Center: So today's meeting, as I mentioned, has a very specific purpose it is for Dp. Staff, and for others to hear your comments on whether an expansion of the Juniper Ridge landfill provides a substantial public benefit according to the criteria I just went over. In addition to today's meeting and virtual meeting next week, Dp. Will also accept written public comments on the application until around mid August, when Staff will need to prepare the draft decision. Wells Conference Center: And then with that I'm going to ask Lisa from Stevie and Lahar to go over a summary of the Bureau of General Services Application. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon, everyone. My name. Can you hear me? Wells Conference Center: Okay. My name is Lisa Turner. I'm an engineer with Cdmr. Engineers, and we've been the design and construction engineers for this landfill since it's an inception. Wells Conference Center: The owner of the landfill is the State domain and Bureau of General Services manages it for the State. Wells Conference Center: They have an operating services agreement with using info operations. Who's a division of seller. Wells Conference Center: It's the landfill, and I'll give you a quick tour of it. Wells Conference Center: You can see Wells Conference Center: so northern little town from here if you went north on 95 up to exit 1 99 cut off. Room 16 left. You headed Wells Conference Center: the original paper mill. Landfill was built for the mill and old Town, which at the time sold by James River Corporation, and that was in 1996. And you can see that's the size of the originally permitted landfill. Wells Conference Center: In 2,017 it was expanded. Wells Conference Center: And we're now proposing another expansion to the North. Wells Conference Center: And so, just to give you an idea about what the landfill is. Wells Conference Center: This is the liner system with the landfill. It's 4 feet thick, and it's basically 2 layers, Leaj collection and a leak detection system. So the waste would sit here Wells Conference Center: and any liquid that comes out of waste or rainfall is gonna go into a foot of sand and a drainage field composite. And that's Wells Conference Center: this stuff with fabric and this net on it, and I'll leave these out on that table so you can look at them so they're not only you won't see them most places. Wells Conference Center: and that collects all the

Wells Conference Center: follow each day that comes out because it's sitting on an 80 mil thick plastic liner. So just for comparison, a plastic trash bag is about 3 quarters of mil thick, so this is 100 times more than 100 times as thick as a plastic bag. Wells Conference Center: Underneath. That is a Wells Conference Center: geosynthetic clay layer. So what this is is fabric on 2 sides to the powdered bed in the middle, when the moisture from the ground gets that Ben Knight hydrated the bentonite clay swells and makes it impermeable. Another impermeable iron, and you're welcome to open this up and look at it. Some of the clay will come out because it's powdered right now, but go ahead and open it up and look at it. Wells Conference Center: That's just, and then there's a foot of compact clay. That's the leg collection layer underneath that there's another foot of sand, another drainage sheet composite, another sheet of plastic, and another foot of clay. And so that's what the liner system is. Wells Conference Center: So to talk about the need for the landfill, the towns must provide for the disposal of waste. Wells Conference Center: So 1989 the State passed a law that each municipality shall provide solid waste disposal service. Wells Conference Center: In 1993 the State said unlicensed and licensed open municipal solid waste landfills that have not been closed must be closed. So with that law about 400 town dumps Wells Conference Center: we're close, and for those of us who remember the town, though closing most of them was a very good thing, a lot of them wearing gravel pits they were not good for the water quality surrounding them. That was a good thing. A few towns kept their landfills and the State decided to go with a regional waste disposal policy. Wells Conference Center: So some of the towns that kept their landfills mid coast, which is in Rockport. They they only take CD. Which is construction and demolition waste. Wells Conference Center: Rockland, which is also CD, that takes municipal solid waste. There's several towns that take a very small amount of CD. Augusta takes a lot of different waste and risk of waste solutions, which is 2 landfills, one in Fort Fairfield and one on Press 5. Wells Conference Center: Altogether. They take less than 11% waste. Wells Conference Center: There's some other landfills that anyone can pay to dispose in towns will get agreements with them. So heartland landfill this is based on the tonnage disposed in main 2022. Wells Conference Center: Heartland took less than 1%. Wells Conference Center: Mlac, which is an incinerator in Auburn with Orlandville Lewiston to less than 5 Wells Conference Center: Perk. It's now Wells Conference Center: Epc. But I think most people know is her incinerator in Warrington, which landed, built in at Junior Bridge. Wells Conference Center: They would close. Now. Oops. Wells Conference Center: Okay. Wells Conference Center: Eco maintenance out Portland. Have an incinerator in landfill cross roads in our walk. It's just a landfill. Wells Conference Center: And so all of these together take about 38% of the waste and Juniper ridge takes 51.3% of the waste. So you can see, juniper Ridge is about 3 times the size of the next largest landfill, which is prosper, and there was fiber in Hampton, but they closed in May of 2020, and, like I said, Kirk has also been closed. Wells Conference Center: Every county in Maine uses the Juniper Ridge landfill, so you can see the darker green Cumberland county of Mascot tonnage Wells Conference Center: Kenneth Beck and Andrew Scogin Wells Conference Center: are 100 to 150,000 second half. New York takes somewhat less, but every county in name takes waste. Wells Conference Center: It's critical to the tenure waste disposal needs of the State Wells Conference Center: at 51.3%. It's critical. Wells Conference Center: Juniper origin. Hill supports other facilities in main by taking bypass waste. So that's waste that can't be processed for whatever reason, by

another facility and residuals. It essentially takes what's left over. Wells Conference Center: It's the last resort for many of the towns that have agreements with perfect vibrate, which is a lot of communities in Eastern Maine, and without the expansion of Juniper Ridge, every other K to dispose facility would need to expand, to take more than double what they take. Now, remember, they're taking 38% collectively. And Juniper Ridge is taking more than that. Wells Conference Center: So it really is a public need. Wells Conference Center: How soon is it needed. Wells Conference Center: So this is the remaining permanent capacity just at Juniper Ridge. S020-21-2223. Those are actual numbers. The others are estimated, and you can see it's about a million cubic yards a year being used, and we expect that will continue. And by 2028, early 2020. We're out of volume. Wells Conference Center: If we look at all the remaining capacity of all the landfills in Maine. Wells Conference Center: we're running out by 2032 Wells Conference Center: Juniper Ridge Land Bill, including the expansion, is consistent with the State. Solid waste management, hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: So it provides a place to dispose of material that cannot be processed by incinerators, volume reduction facilities. There's lots of recycling programs. There's a number of incinerators. They just can't take every single thing that we want to dispose of Wells Conference Center: it provides backup when those facilities aren't operating. We talked about Perk and fiber rate, but they're also our backup for Mwack. Any domain when those incinerators need for pairs or Wells Conference Center: or just aren't working. You know, there's maintenance. There's repairs. There's Wells Conference Center: stuff you plan stuff. You don't plan. Wells Conference Center: Gyps Wells Conference Center: provides a place for materials that cannot use the seed stock for waste to energy facilities and cannot be composted. Wells Conference Center: The landfill will produce and distribute renewable natural gas, and Costello runs their 0 recycling operation, which reduces disposal volume. So throughout we are working to deal with the State's solid waste management, hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: What type of waste is accepted as your bridge. Wells Conference Center: Well, there's a long list, and I'm not gonna read through it. But you can see that's a lot of different items. Wells Conference Center: and that's the rest of the items. So there's a lot of different things that you don't think about. Wells Conference Center: But what it doesn't take is hazardous waste, and it doesn't take municipal solid waste, except when another facility is unable to process it. So your town cannot contract with Juniper Ridge to directly take the municipal solid waste from your town. They have to take it someplace. It's gonna process it 1st Wells Conference Center: geographic provides disposal reliability for many of the towns when those primary facilities don't work and given the issues at Perk. And 5 right? It's the last resort for some towns. Wells Conference Center: and there's waste water treatment plants, slush. And this has been in the news a lot in April of 2022 State Legislature ban, the land spread of wastewater treatment plants sludge. Wells Conference Center: And because of that ban 90% of Maine's wastewater treatment class now goes to June garbage Wells Conference Center: episode 3 times a year to ensure compliance. Wells Conference Center: The air emissions are constantly monitored. Wells Conference Center: The host communities which include Old Town and Elton receive 2.6 million in host community benefits. Wells Conference Center: and the neighbors of the landfill receive property, tax reimbursement and a property value guarantee, and that's not required at all chooses to do Wells Conference Center: as we go through the permitting process. Priscilla is planning on having more public informational mirror meetings throughout the process that is required,

so that people understand what's Wells Conference Center: what the project is, how things are gonna work and can participate in the licensing process. And there'll be notifications on that Wells Conference Center: sell will provide funding for area scholarship opportunities. And this is similar to an educational benefit that they do at Landfill, New York, that they own that the State of New York on Stella operates. So they're gonna set up the same same program or similar program. Here. Wells Conference Center: The State has an obligation to provide for waste disposal. Wells Conference Center: This was in 1989. Wells Conference Center: They passed a law that the Department may not approve an application for a new commercial, solid waste disposal facility. So, starting in 1989, there couldn't be any, any an existing commercial facility that expand. But there can't be any new ones. So with that the State pretty much took over responsibility for disposing of the waste that they required the towns Wells Conference Center: to take care of. Wells Conference Center: the expansion is needed. Wells Conference Center: And we can see this is, quotes from the Main Materials Management Plan, which was published by the main Department of Environmental Protection in January of this year Wells Conference Center: Statewide, Maine appears to have an adequate capacity for at least 10 years before several landfall facilities reach their capacity. This assumes, however, that an expansion license application is both received by and approved by the Department for the Jrf. Facility. Wells Conference Center: As of the date of this report, the Department has received a preliminary Investigative report Wells Conference Center: for Jrl. For future expansion. The loss of Jrl. As a disposal facility would create catastrophic capacity issues as it receives over 50% of all material landfill in May annually Wells Conference Center: and separately from a report prepared by Brown, Calwell about the wastewater treatment plant issue, which is, they refers to biosolids. Wells Conference Center: They say that without the additional capacity for an expansion of Jrl. The State is dire situation. Wells Conference Center: They recommended that the state work with the cell to ensure that an application to expand. Jrl. Is submitted as soon as possible. Wells Conference Center: and concluded that expansion is critical. Jr. L. Would not expanded. There will be no main landfill with enough capacity to meet solid waste needs, and much of the biosolids will need to be set out of state. Wells Conference Center: So in summary Wells Conference Center: expansion of the January landfill meets the public need and therefore provides public benefit, is critical. To meeting the State's tenure wastefuls Wells Conference Center: is the landfill. Last resort for many towns helps the towns meet their legal responsibility to provide for waste disposal, and helps sustain its obligation to provide for waste disposal. Now that no new commercial facilities can be licensed. Wells Conference Center: and I will put samples out on the table, and you're welcome to take a look at them. Wells Conference Center: and you can just turn. Wells Conference Center: So now I'd like to move us into the public comment portion of this meeting. Wells Conference Center: If you wish to present your comments early today and not put your name on the sign. Sheet this outside the door. I encourage you to do so. We'll sign before we wrap up and if there's anyone in the room when we're done going to the list who wishes to present. I think we'll probably time that. Wells Conference Center: So I'm going to be limiting everybody to. I had originally planned on 3 min, but you're proud, so I'm going to call it 5 and we're just asking. Well, then, try not to be too much of a stickler but it is hard for everybody to absorb information Wells Conference Center: over time, so would remind you that you can submit any additional information you want in writing to the department and all of your

comments, whether you present them orally today, or you submit them in writing, and for anyone who presents virtual public TV next week. Wells Conference Center: All of those comments will be reviewed by the Department, and they're all given equal weight. And so part of the value I would suggest of presenting orally today and next week is because then others get to hear the points that you are making, and that can be really helpful for people as they're putting together written comments to also submit to the department. Wells Conference Center: And so one of the things I would encourage you to think about is for your fellow citizens for the audience. If there are things you might also want to highlight to them, because it's really important to us and have a good, robust public record for us to be able to review all your comments as we're looking at those against the criteria that we have. Wells Conference Center: So with that I think we'll just try to play it by ear in terms of giving you a warning as you come up on your time, and I'm gonna start going through the list of folks who signed up and Cat Taylor, I think I'm here first.

Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. Wells Conference Center: My name is Kat Taylor. I'm a resident and property owner in Argyle Township, a little town about 20 miles north of Bangor. Wells Conference Center: And adjacent to Old Town, Alton, where Junior Richlandville is site. Wells Conference Center: Earlier this year Representative Jim Gill submitted an Ld. 2135, a resolve to investigate and address municipal, solid waste disposal services issues as an emergency resolve to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Wells Conference Center: Tricks. Wells Conference Center: The committee took the resolve and modified it. Wells Conference Center: retitled it to regarding the operation and future capacity of State owned landfills. Wells Conference Center: Okay, so Wells Conference Center: the fact that Jim Dill had to bring forth an emergency resolve regarding the issues in our area with waste management speaks to the importance of having something in place. Wells Conference Center: that the citizens can agree upon. Wells Conference Center: Right now we seem to be following the waste hierarchy in reverse, where landfill is the choice. The 1st choice Wells Conference Center: and recycling is somewhat confusing. Convoluted. So residents don't normally participate in it. And so since that is the rule of thumb that we're using right now to approve or not approve this application. It's important to keep that in mind. Wells Conference Center: Okay, the few things that are left out of the handout that you might find interesting are have to do with the Mrc's. See if I get it right. Used to be multiple resources. I think it's now Wells Conference Center: waste management like Nws in river waste services management. I'm not sure. Anyway, they claim to have that online by 2025, and they're partnering with innovative resource recovery in order to set up some sort of advanced recycling project. They've been dormant since 2020, but I believe this was 7 presentation. They actually have Wells Conference Center: been functioning since 2,018. The Perk plan is now Eagle Point Energy Center partnering with the city of Orient. Wells Conference Center: They were Grant \$650,000 from Knoxville County this year, out of discretionary funds, from the infrastructure grants to purchase a baler to clear the tipping floor. Wells Conference Center: I recently spoke with an Epec employee who says Mrc. Members are calling to see when they can send their municipal solid waste to the waste, to energy facility. And just so, you know, Mrc has contracts with these member communities that prohibit them from using any other waste disposal facility. Wells Conference Center: However, they have graciously allowed their member communities to recycle on their own if they want to, and they will not penalize them for shorting the amount of Msw. That goes to the Mrc. Facility. Orrington also should

not recycle, however, on their website they state that their residents are encouraged to keep recycling Wells Conference Center: by practicing, putting their recycling out by the curb like it will end up in landfill at this time, both Mrc. Member communities, I think there's 115 of them and the Orrington facility send all of their waste to do a rich landfill right now, although the Mrc group has contracted with the carrier Wells Conference Center: to kind of offset half of that that they send instead of sending it across, they save on transportation costs. Wells Conference Center: and with the Lrc. And E. Tech facilities predicted Startup in 2025, and the required reports on J. And Jrl, I'll get to Jay in a minute. It is premature for the public to weigh in on the public benefit of a Jrl. Expansion, without a comprehensive understanding of the pending waste handling facilities, effect on waste, diversion, and any remaining licensable capacity Wells Conference Center: or Jrl. Without the expansion, any determination should be tabled until later. In January 2025, when the reports are due. Wells Conference Center: During the Emr. Committee that I watched Mister Lysim hearing to the committee in the and please correct me. I know you will. The J. Facility, the mill and J. Was purchased by new owners, and they are donating the landfill to the State of Maine. The Department of Environmental Protection is required to do an assessment on the potential Wells Conference Center: benefits of using the J. Facility as a waste treatment, slash Wells Conference Center: containment facility, and it also has a waste water treatment plan on the site. Okay? Wells Conference Center: So Wells Conference Center: the contract with Casella as Jrl. Operator is due to expire in 2034. They seem to be refusing to be given work on an expansion until they get a 6 year extension of their contract. This is something that I just heard anecdotally so. I have no written evidence to that. Wells Conference Center: Reports that the Department Bureau of General Server. Wells Conference Center: prior to submit to the joint committee have to do report on the J facilities potential and a report on the old Town landfill Operating Services agreement Wells Conference Center: so this has to be done on or before January first.st Wells Conference Center: There's also an amendment of operating services agreement for the old town landfill, and if you look at what the State is now requiring in their contract. There. They want transparency in the operations they want more oversight, they want facilities to disclose and make available to the Bureau the terms and conditions of all contracts. Wells Conference Center: Some time between Wells Conference Center: the operator and its contractors, subcontractors, customers regarding the use, operation, and maintenance of the landfill. They will require that the leaching collected from the landfill is treated prior to discharge such that the concentration of regulated pfas contaminants do not exceed the drinking water standards. Wells Conference Center: So in summary time Wells Conference Center: I feel it is premature to provide public comment and public benefit determination for an expansion of Jrl. Without the report's order of the evaluation of J's suitability Wells Conference Center: and as well as adherence to the safe space hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: as Jim Dill pointed out, and Bill mail the town manager and of Old Town supported his bill or his resolve. Wells Conference Center: And he stated that it was like just throwing trash out of the car window. What's going on right now that we have very little recycling opportunities. The transfer station has been reduced down to one bin for residents come and deposit their recycling. They have 96 gallon bins that they gave to each resident of old town that gets picked up by a robotic arm attached to a truck Wells Conference Center: that has divided compartments, one for recycling, one for Msw. And they have very

strict Wells Conference Center: guidelines on how that should be set by the curb. How far apart they are, and what types of things are recyclable. Wells Conference Center: But, as you can guess, a lot of people are not educated on what actually is recyclable. Gary, my neighbor and friend will speak later on that she was probably the last person in our dog to actually use the transfer station for recycling because the rest of us have decided that it's really not worth the effort. And when you look in the bin at the transfer station, it's mixed in with trash and other contaminants Wells Conference Center: that Wells Conference Center: to sell the claims if one inappropriate item is put into the bin that they collect that contaminates the entire load, but it's unclear on what happens then, if it still goes to the recycling center and they sort through it by hand. Wells Conference Center: or does it just go to landfill. So the cell is elimination of waste diversion services in the area and the increased expense making using these services more expensive than landfill, deterred participation of communities and residents relying on Jrl. For disposal resulting in the opposite of the State's waste. Hierarchy, instead of expanding Jrl. The State should be looking Wells Conference Center: for disclosure and setting insights on newer, more regional, sustainable solutions. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Answer any questions as well. I don't know. Wells Conference Center: Thank you all for the assistance, for now, seeing our next speaker's name next is Nancy Beard. Wells Conference Center: Goodness. Wells Conference Center: I love my notes at home, so there might be. Wells Conference Center: We Wells Conference Center: yeah, the the city Wells Conference Center: I have as Wells Conference Center: develop a priority Wells Conference Center: or a hierarchy of where Wells Conference Center: our waste needs to go, and it starts with reducing waste, then reusing waste, recycling waste Wells Conference Center: waste processing that could include incineration, or reducing volume of waste needed, and land disposal or or landfill. Landville is the very last Wells Conference Center: and smallest I'm in Wells Conference Center: on Iraqi. Wells Conference Center: and we're Wells Conference Center: we seem to be using it as the very top. Wells Conference Center: Oh, the hierarchy! And ignoring the rest of it, my experience with I I've I've been bringing. Wells Conference Center: you know I I live in Iowa township, and and I've been bringing our waste to the landfill. My husband was bringing the lace of waste landfill for a long time, and once they did the no sort. Wells Conference Center: Then things started Wells Conference Center: falling in power. Wells Conference Center: There used to be a whole lot of vehicles. That would be the landfill when I get there, and people would be, you know, carrying their their their waste to the various sites, and I have to say that the last time I was at the landfill, which was, I don't know. Maybe a couple of weeks ago, maybe less. Wells Conference Center: I was the only person there bringing waste Wells Conference Center: are are bringing green recycled. And so I, you know, fighting with my daughter, who's in Old Town. Wells Conference Center: I said. You know I question if Wells Conference Center: you know what we're bringing for recycling is being recycled, and her comment to me was, Well, nobody really believes it's being recycled, you know, you just have to pick your balance. Wells Conference Center: And so the last time when I the second last time when I was at Landville. Wells Conference Center: you know, if if you're I mean not the landlord. Wells Conference Center: that's what happens when I don't have any notes. The second time I was at the transfer station or this Wells Conference Center: not this last time before that, when I was at the transfer station. Wells Conference Center: and this this. Wells Conference Center: if you've

never been to the transfer station. There's this you sort of drive up, and and then you stop at the cement area. Wells Conference Center: That's why I'm not. Well. I broke Wells Conference Center: to pull in Wells Conference Center: to collapse. Wells Conference Center: You know what you're recycling. Wells Conference Center: and Wells Conference Center: there was nothing there. What there was was. Wells Conference Center: I don't. I don't know how much of it was recyclable. But there was a Wells Conference Center: you know, a major. Wells Conference Center: Yeah, I recycle Wells Conference Center: in one of the fresh park that was there, and they had dumped Wells Conference Center: all this stuff onto the cement barrier before you get to the bra where you dump your Wells Conference Center: recycle. And and I was told, I'm just. You know. Wells Conference Center: you know we're we're trying to clean this up. Why don't you just walk around the other, and you can rock your recycles down? Wells Conference Center: And and Wells Conference Center: as as I brought my recyclables down. I could hear all the glass breaking. Wells Conference Center: and I couldn't see it, I mean because there was nothing else in there. Wells Conference Center: It was empty. And so this last time, when I brought my recycles, the trash was still there Wells Conference Center: on on the side. I, I asked him, I said. Wells Conference Center: does the recycling actually get recycled. I says, because if you read the website, the you know consoles website, which seems to be the recycling website. It says that you cannot bring, or the recycle broken glass. Wells Conference Center: because it Wells Conference Center: dumps up Wells Conference Center: the machinery, and so it doesn't work right? So they will not accept glass that's broken. Well, clearly bringing it to the recycle setup, it's broken. And and so I said to them, You know, how does that? Oh, we just mashed everything together. Yeah, everything's broken. Wells Conference Center: they says. But but we we don't, you know. Bring it to the cell. We just bring it to the Wells Conference Center: the sewing station or the the no soil, you know station. Wells Conference Center: And they said, Why don't you do recycling over that? And that is about maybe a 3rd the size of that table Wells Conference Center: that they told me to put my recycling in. Wells Conference Center: and so I looked in. And it's probably about 6 glass bottles. So you know, I have no faith that my recycle objects are going into the recycle. Wells Conference Center: I think they're all just going Wells Conference Center: digital bridge. Aye. Wells Conference Center: and I Wells Conference Center: it's it's like June Bridge is the 1st stop. Wells Conference Center: and I, you know, and I watched the trucks Wells Conference Center: pick up the recycle bins. Wells Conference Center: and where where the old folks, you know. The people used to sort of Wells Conference Center: put it into the the back end, which was open. Wells Conference Center: Now the app is bringing it up over the top of the bill Wells Conference Center: and just dropping it Wells Conference Center: and dropping it at such a height that Wells Conference Center: the glass is breaking, and I'm sure of it. Wells Conference Center: and if consent is not accepting it. Then where is he bringing it? You know, I mean, where are they bringing it? They're bringing it to the dog. Wells Conference Center: you know. I think if we. Wells Conference Center: if the State would take back the control. Wells Conference Center: oh, waste management Wells Conference Center: and and look at, get back to the priorities and put your energies and the focus and the money into the priorities. Wells Conference Center: Landfill is the very last one, and I I agree with that. Wells Conference Center: You know there were a couple of options Wells Conference Center: to decreasing landfill that are in place. And if we actually started recycling our recyclables,

and now nobody. It sounds like very few people trust that their recycling is getting recycled. Wells Conference Center: And so Wells Conference Center: they're not even bothering to recycle anymore. Wells Conference Center: Hopefully, the last one in Iowa we still bring their stuff recycling. Wells Conference Center: you know, the transfer station to be recycled. And Wells Conference Center: I'm getting to the point where, you know it's feeling pretty useless to me. And I I think that that, given that, we're looking at, maybe. Wells Conference Center: and that will happen. Wells Conference Center: these 2 other options, maybe if they become, you know Wells Conference Center: later, should be the last of it after it gets, you know, incinerated, and it's down to ash Wells Conference Center: and put it on the landfill, you know. I I think, to jump ahead and say, Oh, we we need to Wells Conference Center: in large the crash mountain in Wells Conference Center: you know. I think enough is enough. We we need to get our priorities straight and Wells Conference Center: I don't think we have them straight at this point. I don't think we're following the priorities. I think they need did a good presentation that made us believe that following the priorities. But my experience is that it's not happening, you know, from what I've seen, and that's certainly not encouraging people to recycle. Wells Conference Center: because if they were then they wouldn't have been buying people, those towns that that used park instead of, you know, right for the dump. And you know these other things wouldn't have been happening so that we really need to get back to our priorities. You know. Wells Conference Center: we need to protect that earth. Wells Conference Center: And this is this is one way we can do it. And let's put our energies and the money into those Wells Conference Center: first, st highest sales on the priorities. Wells Conference Center: Thank you, Mr. Garrett. Thank you very much. Wells Conference Center: Next is Katherine Schmidt. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. My name is Kathleen Schmidt. I live in Baymore. My trash goes to Juniper Ridge, and I wish that it didn't. Wells Conference Center: This landfill has never been about public. Wells Conference Center: Let's remember it was created as part of a deal to save a paper mill and paper mill jobs, and I think we all know how that turned out. Since then it has served mostly a single waste Management company. The public does not benefit from being failing to adhere to its policy of waste reduction that selects landfilling as a last resort. Wells Conference Center: the public does not benefit from expansion after expansion, from kicking the can down the road for another 10 years. Wells Conference Center: What happens then? Wells Conference Center: The public will benefit only when we focus on reducing the production of waste. Wells Conference Center: There is no environmental justice and an expansion and more garbage laden with forever chemicals, heavy metals, phthalates, caffeine, and acids that render this part of the Panov Scott nation's homeland the heart of the Peninsula nations homeland uninhabitable, that eventually will reach the Panov River. Wells Conference Center: But this is long term thinking, which is what is required for public health and safety, not short term expansions for immediate gains. Wells Conference Center: You eat. Wells Conference Center: Thank you very much. Wells Conference Center: This is Ed Spencer. Wells Conference Center: It's Adam. Wells Conference Center: Welcome to Orno, Mr. Larson. Ep officials. I think. I see Blaine Google here from the Vgs. Welcome Wells Conference Center: welcome to the public. My name's Ed Spencer. I lived in Westwell Down since 1977, about mile 3 quarters from Wells Conference Center: Sage Spring Bridge landfall. Wells Conference Center: From its inception Wells Conference Center: Jrl. Has been inconsistent with the precepts of

environmental justice, which for the 1st time will be used as criteria for deciding the public benefit. Determination of another Jrl. Expansion. Wells Conference Center: The current situation is no exception. Wells Conference Center: Commissioner lies to find herself facing the fact. There is currently no good alternative for assuring Lane for capacity for main waste disposal needs Wells Conference Center: to deny DVD. For general expansion would be contrary to departments. 2,024 waste management plan. Wells Conference Center: So main law requires that municipalities have a plan for disposal of its citizens. However, there is no person, bureau or department in Maine charged with assuring future landfill needs. Wells Conference Center: Government employees tend to shy away from difficult decisions that may result in Guru obstacles. Once those who benefit from the status quo focus their anger on the agents of change Wells Conference Center: quote environmental justice includes equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of waste management, laws, rules. Wells Conference Center: regulations, and licensing decisions. Pbd. For for June Bridge might partially benefit most mayors, but it certainly will have negative environmental quality impacts. For local communities Wells Conference Center: this is not equal protection. Wells Conference Center: This is a sacrifice. So Wells Conference Center: within whatever geographic distance from Juniper Ridge one uses for a metric, there are diverse populations when we look at the Ej mandate quote, regardless of the ancestry class Wells Conference Center: disability, ethnicity, income, national origin, or religion. Many of these have been negatively impacted by June forage, and will be further diminished by Wells Conference Center: Gym. Bridge expansion. Wells Conference Center: The rules for Pbd decisions include 7 B for an application related to a State owned solid waste disposal facility shall conduct a review that is in accordance with the section that is independent. And and my quote. Wells Conference Center: where can the public view the results of this review? Who conducted it? Does it even exist? Had point prepared comments without a fair and impartial review of the history of June Bridge, and the relationship between the State as owner just be jest and Casella is operated. Wells Conference Center: It doesn't appear to be in the Pbd application. If this review has taken place, as include the history of secrecy and collusion at the inception of Juniper Ridge, the history of Juniper Ridge. It's a textbook example of environmental injustice and regulatory capture. Wells Conference Center: The pathway to this current situation was fraught with environmental injustice and lack of meaningful involvement by the local public. Wells Conference Center: There are pathways to landfill capacity that could come closer to environment justice. Wells Conference Center: We've often heard that quote the Osa. Prevents us from doing more unquote. Actually, the contract between the State the seller requires review of all contracts to sell related to the landfill before they are implemented. Wells Conference Center: To my knowledge this has not happened even once, and it places a public at risk of hazardous materials, exposure, and a monopolized waste market, and exhibits non compliance by the State as owner with its own operating services. Agreement. Wells Conference Center: Therefore, in order to pursue environmental justice, the State needs to deny to sell a further capacity. Wells Conference Center: For over 20 years. Dysfunction and injustices have taken place with the State as owner and sellers operator. There has never been a performance review. State ownership should ensure transparency and accountable accountability, and that is has not happened. So it's time to change direction. Wells Conference Center: There are 4 or 5 years of land capacity at

Juniper Ridge. Wells Conference Center: So I'm saying, deny the public benefit determination to Priscilla. Wells Conference Center: Let's Wells Conference Center: they have 4 or 5 years capacity. They can make that last longer. There. Wells Conference Center: Osa runs out 2,034. Let's let it run out for lack of capacity before it happens. Wells Conference Center: Okay? So what would happen next? Wells Conference Center: Station runs on landfill. Montes, the city of Augusta, operates Hatch Hill. Wells Conference Center: There's all kinds of way to ways to reduce leasing Wells Conference Center: production instead of Costello's ways, which is leave a huge area exposed to presentation. Wells Conference Center: And I I don't have time to get into the the Wells Conference Center: injustice of the Penobscot nation having this legally untreated into their it's it's pathetic. So solutions. Wells Conference Center: I'll wrap this up. Wells Conference Center: Solutions conduct a full, independent review of the 20 year Life of Juniper Ridge, perhaps by Apec Wells Conference Center: Beach municipal. We asked if there's a good place to locate securing publicly controlled land, for in their area Wells Conference Center: all of our current state landfills are in Penobscott County, just one of 16 main counties is this equal protection and environmentally just Wells Conference Center: set a group with full participation by the local community members to develop landfill operation guidelines with the public interest as primary Wells Conference Center: audio current Jr. Inputs and craft. Their original discard points Wells Conference Center: devised a tiered system of waste disposal fees for communities Wells Conference Center: with having with those having the best compliance with a state waste hierarchy, getting the lowest rate Wells Conference Center: financially, support efforts at the community and regional level to reduce waste inputs at the source remote reuse and recycling, and get organics out of the waste stream. Wells Conference Center: Reform and rewrite names, waste rules Wells Conference Center: which are mostly written by the waste industry. Wells Conference Center: restore the common sense version of what main waste is material that was discarded for the 1st time within main borders, and certifies as such with each load into the new landfill. Wells Conference Center: I noticed there wasn't a statistic in the presentation for percentage of of waste that, you know, came through Lewis and from different destination. So in in summary, I urge Commissioner boys, and Wells Conference Center: to consider my comments. Wells Conference Center: And Wells Conference Center: deny this. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Thanks. Ed. Wells Conference Center: Next up is Ralph Chapman. Wells Conference Center: Thank you for this opportunity to address the Department. Wells Conference Center: my name is Ralph Chapman from Boxport. Wells Conference Center: I'd like to know quickly that Wells Conference Center: chapter 400, IE. Wells Conference Center: For the facility Wells Conference Center: expansion is Wells Conference Center: inconsistent with ensuring environmental justice. So that's 1 reason for denying the application. Wells Conference Center: I check the 400, IE. 2 Wells Conference Center: that has the word promotes in it. We've heard this Wells Conference Center: a little earlier. Expansion of the landfill does not promote the solid waste management hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: And so that's another reason for denying the application. Wells Conference Center: And then Wells Conference Center: I'd like to point out that the Wells Conference Center: time estimates, for Wells Conference Center: when the landfill exceeds it is full that can no longer take further waste Wells Conference Center: is based on some assumptions. And those assumptions basically are as a continuation of business as usual. Wells Conference Center: a profit motive Wells Conference Center: or

collecting, transporting and Wells Conference Center: depositing waste in the landfill. Wells Conference Center: Yeah, I did not promote the hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: And so it's inappropriate to suggest that Wells Conference Center: and then anything about with expanding the landfill will help promote the hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: I think it's worth noting that Wells Conference Center: the waste management company as well as the Department of Environmental Protection. Favored Wells Conference Center: sourcing waste from out of State Wells Conference Center: has to go through a some kind of treatment Wells Conference Center: protocol within the State be considered state waste, but this is vastly shortened. The lifetime of landfill. Wells Conference Center: and what kind of land, though, would easily be extended if, in fact, the State tried to promote hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: Thank you very much. Wells Conference Center: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Wells Conference Center: My apologies in advance. I'm gonna get this one wrong Wells Conference Center: our next commenter is Chuck. Wells Conference Center: only my advisor. Wells Conference Center: good afternoon again. Thank you for the opportunity to Wells Conference Center: see. My name is Chuck White Heather. I'm a former in Old Town, and I've been Wells Conference Center: for many, many years Wells Conference Center: the license for Juniper Ridge says that it will not harm any waters of the same. The definition of environmental justice also notes that it means the right to be protected from environmental pollution Wells Conference Center: among other things. Wells Conference Center: and Wells Conference Center: we all know that this is not happening. The landfill beach is full of toxic and forever chemicals, such as pfas and pfos. Wells Conference Center: And it's like even the not Scott River. Wells Conference Center: This is one of the reasons that there's an advisory to limit or avoid consumption of fish from the river. Wells Conference Center: so I feel that the Department should not even be considering an expansion of Juniper Ridge Wells Conference Center: before ensuring compliance with the original license requirements. Wells Conference Center: The Department has not proved that your privilege is not included. Wells Conference Center: In fact, everyone in the room knows that the opposite is true. Wells Conference Center: We can't go ahead and send again. It's not happening Wells Conference Center: just because the State has entirely failed. Its job with regard to waste disposal does not mean that the Department of Environmental Protection needs to count down and approve this application. Wells Conference Center: The fact of the leakage Plugin directly makes this entirely inconsistent with the definition of environmental justice, and that's therefore, that you deny this public benefit determination and the expansion of the Land Bill. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Thank you very much. Next is Don White. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon, everyone. Good afternoon. Wells Conference Center: My name's Don. I am a lifelong, resident state main retired educator and a lifelong farmer. What a great opportunity we have before us. Wells Conference Center: We have we. We can stop doing business as usual. Finally. Wells Conference Center: we have the opportunity to really tackle our waste stream. Wells Conference Center: We have the opportunity for the industry and state to take a realistic and a real look at what we're doing now. Wells Conference Center: All we're doing now is throwing garbage onto the ground. Wells Conference Center: covering it up, calling it good, measuring it once a little while, and it's all toxic Wells Conference Center: here. Wells Conference Center: Never should we allow such things to continue anymore. When do we learn? Wells Conference Center: When do we learn? Stop doing business as usual, taking the cheapest way out the easiest way out, so that a large company can make a lot of

money, and we don't have to puzzle, use, reduce. Wells Conference Center: are wasting. Wells Conference Center: This is a great opportunity for the Department to say No, because they have time to change, focus and start creating a program of known to industry that creates toxic chemical products. There's ways to do it as much as we can, and certainly put their money behind real recycling efforts. Wells Conference Center: This is the time to do it. Juniper Ridge has Wells Conference Center: destroy the life of people who live around it. At times it has destroyed part of the pen. Scott River. It has destroyed part of our air, water, and land. Wells Conference Center: We need to finally stop doing business as usual, the easiest, and put your head in. Stand and bury the responsibility for our children and grandchildren. Some of us are gonna die, and some of us are getting sick. We don't know that. Thanks for your help Wells Conference Center: I need to do Wells Conference Center: next is Paul Frederick? Wells Conference Center: Here. Wells Conference Center: thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Paul Greer. I'm a resident of Florida Wells Conference Center: and Wells Conference Center: I hope, overview a little bit, so that I press Wells Conference Center: the people who are here to hear our statements as as well as everyone else has come. I'm Wells Conference Center: I'm personally in accord with every person who has spoken so far, and the perspectives that have been given have been Wells Conference Center: very true and perceptive Wells Conference Center: and Wells Conference Center: gathered together. I think that the Wells Conference Center: Ddp should deny this other benefits. Application. Now I'm here for a specific group of very so. Wells Conference Center: I hope, concise Wells Conference Center: purpose. Wells Conference Center: And that's to remind ourselves of a couple of dates Wells Conference Center: in the history of this Wells Conference Center: process. Wells Conference Center: and 1989 is when the State Wells Conference Center: decided in by law and policy that there were going to be no more financial and part of the reasoning behind was to preserve land of the Pasvan from being filled with outstate waste. Wells Conference Center: That was an assumption that was part of that Wells Conference Center: legislation. Wells Conference Center: Now Wells Conference Center: the next phase Wells Conference Center: is January 21, st Wells Conference Center: 2,004. Wells Conference Center: That's just a few months over 20 years ago. Wells Conference Center: That was the day that I first, st and other people here at 1st Wells Conference Center: came to a public informational meeting, where we were told Wells Conference Center: there will be no out of state waste due to the arrangement in this of this agreement. Now it turns out that that meeting, January 21, st 2,004, was 7 months after the resolve was passed, very little information had come out to the public. Wells Conference Center: And then there was the. There was such dry Wells Conference Center: to to find a contractor, and and and the ultimate contract was part of the group that wrote the legislation. The the result was passed in June 14, th of 2,003, and the Rfp. Was actually announced the day before the resolve passed. Wells Conference Center: So now we're looking. 20 years later. Wells Conference Center: and the the public was told Wells Conference Center: there will be no other segways. However, we found out. Wells Conference Center: go through our own public researchers Wells Conference Center: that it was well known among the people who were going to be running this landfill that they were, that they were going to promote exceptions. Wells Conference Center: and these exceptions have to do with processing. Wells Conference Center: and this processing exemptions rested on Wells Conference Center: accepting a an analogy from the residues, from Wells Conference Center: Amish, the amish residues from instant trash incineration. Wells

Conference Center: Well, then it became Wells Conference Center: processing Wells Conference Center: became the mantra of how, out of state rat waste could end up into a bridge. Wells Conference Center: The public was not told one word about this at that public informational meeting we weren't given the Wells Conference Center: core important piece of information that we needed to know to know what was gonna be happening with this. Wells Conference Center: And it's been years and years and years of public delving into public records and attending meetings like this and watching the process unfold in a way that is beyond the capacity of the public to have any kind of leverage in this process. Wells Conference Center: So I'll just say this has been a long process. It's been a heartbreaking process for me and many other people. It's not fun to be here today, although I appreciate that we that this process has to be undertaken? Wells Conference Center: The time to stop Wells Conference Center: dumping in Juniper Ridge is now Wells Conference Center: the time to not approve Wells Conference Center: and expansion another expansion of this monstrous Wells Conference Center: pile of garbage in our landscape. Wells Conference Center: The time to stop is now, and the time for the State to start taking seriously. We've said this so many times over the years Wells Conference Center: takes seriously the supposed solid waste management. Hierarchy Wells Conference Center: is there a public benefit? Let's wait the benefits against the costs and one of the costs in this whole process has been lack of public trust Wells Conference Center: and State agencies, and in the corporations that are fulfilling these contracts, one of the losses is the surrounding communities and what they have been undergoing in all these years. Wells Conference Center: With never a voice Wells Conference Center: including through this fictitious landfill Advisory Council. In any case. That's my message. Wells Conference Center: and I hope that you and everyone else hears it and finds some way to work. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Next is Peter Duvall. Wells Conference Center: Faith. Wells Conference Center: I didn't plan to speak, but I agree with everything and said, Yeah, but I'm going to have this little different angle. Wells Conference Center: My concern is, I live. One thing when we can go background. I'm a member of the old town city of Old Town. I've been attached to this since Landville since its inception. I lived in a half mile. That the concerns that I have as I just mentioned, are the same that have been. Wells Conference Center: Let's save it here. Wells Conference Center: but it's the lack of, let's say the fee. And everyone attached to that capacity of ability Wells Conference Center: to address the land of situation in the State of Maine. Nothing has been done by the State that is pointed out by a previous speaker. Wells Conference Center: Say that it was 87, Wells Conference Center: said that there would be no more. Private landfills stated that absolutely not. Wells Conference Center: The amendment that should prove the last amendment for this landfill 2,017 Wells Conference Center: gave another 10 years. Wells Conference Center: State did absolutely nothing to look for politicians. We have an amendment before us now to give us another 10 years as the State of Mississippian, who absolutely not. Wells Conference Center: and I think that's what they hold in the public. Wells Conference Center: They all in public. And again, as I said, people are good. Wells Conference Center: I'll point out the fact that this would be a method, you know. Look at this consideration, the answer to this. Wells Conference Center: But in our area here there are, I think, 147 pounds are involved with the land survey. Wells Conference Center: But you know there's generating plants and not functioning at this time. Wells Conference Center: So I. My point is, the State needs to take and and take notes and take hold

of their responsibility to do something that Wells Conference Center: thank you.

Next is Bill, ma'am. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. I'm the male city manager for Old Town. I will read the letter that I put in on 712 meeting. Eb.

Wells Conference Center: Please accept this letter as a city of Old Town comments on the Main bureau. General Services application for determination, public benefit for newer expanded solid Waste Disposal Facilities proposed Expansion of Drone Bridge Landfill by Bgs and new landfill operations. Llc. Wells Conference Center: Under State law, title 38, section 1310, a subsection, 3. The Commissioner of Environmental Protections, to apply the following standards contained in 30, 1310, making a public benefit determination. Wells Conference Center: and, as mentioned, pointed out earlier, this handout of the slide will, I will show this up a bit versus read through those through those sentiments for you folks. Wells Conference Center: The city is the primary host community for the Junior Ridge landfill. The city understands the proposed expansion provide an additional 11.9 million cubic yards, approximately 11.3 years additional disposal capacity. This follows a 9.3 5 million cubic yard expansion approved by the Department in 2017. Wells Conference Center: The city also understands the demand department of Environmental Protection and its 2024 main materials management plan at age 41 already has concluded that giving the increasing quantities of waste being landfilled at Jrl. Expansion on this landfill is a critical solution that will be necessary, in addition to proactive steps, to increase waste infrastructure options as well as enhancing efforts towards meeting statutory waste production, diversion, and recycling goals. Wells Conference Center: the city is concerned that any expansion and operation area will be conducted in a responsible manner, that the expansion or operational landfill be protected for public health, safety, and welfare Wells Conference Center: and the city may hold and basically compensate hosting a statewide resource. Wells Conference Center: The city also is concerned. The objectivity of this public benefit determination process for Jrl. Is owned by the city. The department, in its policymaking role already to determine the expansion of Jrl. As necessary, and the department in its regulatory role will be called on review an upcoming amendment of the Jrl. Sole waste regulatory role. Wells Conference Center: we call upon review on an upcoming amendment to Jrl. Assault waste license. The Commissioner approves Ugs's total benefit termination application Wells Conference Center: to place these concerns in context. In 1989, Maine's legislation enacted the 1st comprehensive State solid waste management program. Pl, 1989, chapter 585, an act to promote reduction, recycling and integrated management of solid waste and sound environmental regulation. Wells Conference Center: Under this legislation program. The State prohibited new and expanded commercial, solid waste landfills established the main waste management, agency, and office for siting and disposal operations charged with doing locate and instructing to solve waste disposal facilities. By 1994. Wells Conference Center: The concept behind this legislation was that the State-owned facilities could control and limit or prohibit disposal out of State waste in Maine. In 1995 the Maine Legislature abolished the Maine Waste Management Agency. Wells Conference Center: Pl. 1995, full 64, an act to abolish the main waste management agency. During existence the main waste management agency failed to site working seats, all waste disposal land at all. Wells Conference Center: Under the authority of resolve. 2,003, chapter 93. The state of being purchased landfill for James Operating company, apparently sacked Wells Conference Center: in order to encourage continued operation of change over the paper. This landfill, then known as a West Low Pound until now is Gr1. Had been

permitted in 1993 to accommodate Payment Base Wells Conference Center: 1993, plus total down license to page 4 Wells Conference Center: recites that the City Council supported the West Hole Town application, subject to 9 stipulations, one of which was that only waste generated at James River. Old Town Mill be disposed of in the landfill, and at pages 48, 49, a license. James River identified the waste intended, disposed of at the West Hole landfill as paper mill production is issuance. Wells Conference Center: The State then applied to the Department for license transfer accelerate systems to be linked to operate through a subsidiary news. Meeting Wells Conference Center: an April 2, 2004. Amendment. The West Oak Town license approved a vertical increase in landfill additional waste streams, including construction, demolition, debris, ash front end process, residual and oversized bulk was generated by municipal, solid, waste incinerators main and a limited amount of municipal salt waste bypass from those incinerators. Wells Conference Center: These licenses did not permit the disposal of unprocessed municipal, solid waste to improve its landfill. Thus West Coast Panel Landfill was transformed from paper mill waste landfill to the President, Jr. Became a state solid, waste disposal, landfill that Maine waste, energy agency had been unable to permit and construct. Wells Conference Center: Moreover, Juniper Ridge do not have to go through the review process, and when expanding solid waste disposal facilities at the main legislature established in 1989. Since the department considered a vertical increase not to be an expansion landfill. In this way both became the primary host community, for the State's only real solid waste disposal. Land Bill only limited input from the city and others in the review process. Wells Conference Center: Since 2004, Newswee has been operating Jr. On behalf of the State. Following the closure of managed Recovery Company, incinerator in bitter. In 2012 Jr. Was permitted to accept an additional 81,800 tons per year non bypass and send you. Wells Conference Center: More recently, Jr. Have been receiving increasing amounts to bypass monstw from the close since April 2020, and I see vibrate facility, and from the close, since May this year per facility. Wells Conference Center: However, it's a bit of a stretch to characterize these waste bypass facilities in which they are allegedly bypassed are not in operation. It would be more honest to call this unprocessed municipal solid waste, which currently is not permitted to be disposed of at Jr. Land filling is at the bottom of the State. Solid waste management. Hierarchy, so title 30, section 21. Wells Conference Center: So this in context, city respectfully requests the commission of rigorously. Bailey applies a test in 1310, a subsection 3. This public benefit, determination, application, even though the expansion, Jr. Will be approved in conclusion, and page 41 of that plan that may appear adequate land capacity for at least 10 years. Wells Conference Center: The city requests the Commissioner and the Department re-examine the impacts to Jr. and the city as a host community. This landfill, in order to ensure that the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents are protected, and that environmental justice is insured. Finally, the city requests, either in this preceding or subsequent licensing, the place a timeline on the duration of what currently really is disposed of unprocessed Wells Conference Center: municipal, solid ways to Jr. Thank you for your consideration. Wells Conference Center: Breathe. Wells Conference Center: Thank you very much. Wells Conference Center: That is the end of the list of people that I have who signed up to present comments? Is there anyone who has joined us who would also like to provide comments? Wells Conference Center: Alright, if you'd like to come on up we've asked speakers to try to limit themselves to about 5 min, and if you

could just tell us your name when you get up to lunch Wells Conference Center: I will be extremely brief. My name is Jane Herbert. I do not live in Hudson County. I came from Lincoln County, and I'm sorry I'm late. This is the 1st time to be, but I just have heard a lot of comments, and I agree with all that I've heard, and I would encourage those on the committee to listen to the people who are really impacted by this. But as a State resident I am also concerned. Wells Conference Center: I just want to let that be known that people south of here are paying attention to what is going on here, because, even though, Mitel, we don't send it to tomorrow I am concerned. I toured Wells Conference Center: single screens situation down Westbrook, and I came to learn firsthand that what they say is recycling is really a myth, and I was very discouraged by that, and I feel that the public has been misinformed many times. Misled almost purposely, I'd say, and that we're paying for Wells Conference Center: recycling processes that will exist that are that are misnamed, in my opinion. I think that's wrong, too. And Wells Conference Center: I'm just concerned that maybe I don't know how many people on the decision making committee are Wells Conference Center: residents of Nelson or close by. But I hope that you listen to the people who live there. Wells Conference Center: And they also support what I heard about the Wells Conference Center: investigation into other locations. I mean, I don't think it's fair that most of the trash in Maine goes to Come county and I think that this is an extremely site shortly fix Wells Conference Center: and that it's just expanding our topical culture, and that unless there's a change made general, and all places like that will never be big enough. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Thank you. Is there anyone else. Wells Conference Center: sir, please give us your name. I'm sorry. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. My name is Ralph Leonard. Wells Conference Center: I'm a resident of Old Town, and presently serving on the city of old Town Wells Conference Center: landfill Advisory Committee at Jura Rich. Wells Conference Center: Several years ago I developed the bird plant. Wells Conference Center: It's a solution Wells Conference Center: for someone waste disposal for 159 towns in our area. Wells Conference Center: This solution met the requirements of the State for proper disposal of waste, and minimized the use of the landfill into a bridge. Wells Conference Center: When German ridge was bought by the city of Maine from an old town mill that was shutting down Wells Conference Center: Old Town was assured by the State that only ash from the plant and the system plant benefit. Wells Conference Center: and occasionally some waste or short term shutdowns would be stored at the landfill. Wells Conference Center: Unfortunately. Wells Conference Center: the State had to amend that almost immediately, because this was the only landfill, the State of Maine had license. Wells Conference Center: and it became a convenient solution Wells Conference Center: for this old waste, and to say that no other solution for Wells Conference Center: this is not fair to the citizens of Old Town. Wells Conference Center: and the city has respectfully requested the State Wells Conference Center: to address this in a bill Wells Conference Center: that was submitted by our representative, Jim Dill. Wells Conference Center: to the latest. I should. Wells Conference Center: Our hope is that this bill Wells Conference Center: will be passed by the State. Wells Conference Center: and will be required to find a satisfactory solution to solve waste within the solid waste management. Hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: If this happens and facilities are developed. Wells Conference Center: town and state of main needs for solved was disposable will be better. Wells Conference Center: But, to be certain, no further delay finding a solution occur. Wells Conference Center: I would suggest Wells

Conference Center: that after 2 years, if no solution has been found. Wells Conference Center: the the tipping fees Wells Conference Center: for so long ways going to Juniper Ridge doubled. Wells Conference Center: and that the extra money go into a fund Wells Conference Center: to be administered by the State Wells Conference Center: to help the State find a solution. Wells Conference Center: No, I'm going to add, live from here, but I want to say that finding a solution will not be easy Wells Conference Center: when the State of Maine closed all our dumps. Wells Conference Center: and determined that only the State can permit any other landfills. Wells Conference Center: and they're going to share your very capable person to head up an agency to do this. Wells Conference Center: and after 4 or 5 years Wells Conference Center: the State had to abandon Wells Conference Center: that whole solution, and Sarah Grubba's group that was supposed to find a solution Wells Conference Center: was left with no vision. Wells Conference Center: It was not passed on to anyone else. Wells Conference Center: Let's say we don't drop the ball. Wells Conference Center: Many of us thought the De P. Or the Land Conservation group in the agency had taken on that responsibility. But they are not. Wells Conference Center: Therefore we've been floundering for 30 years Wells Conference Center: with solutions that were as good as we knew how 30 years ago. Wells Conference Center: that facility is similar to work Wells Conference Center: which was developed by General Electric Company, which would consider the deficit for finding that solution which is burning trash, reducing it 90% and only leaving 10% or so to find its way to a landfill. Wells Conference Center: Now, I'm not suggesting that it's gonna be easy to find a solution. Believe me, when I permitted work, and I was the developer to permit it 30 years ago. Wells Conference Center: I found there's something about trash Wells Conference Center: that brings up the worst in us. If there is anybody in the world Wells Conference Center: that Wells Conference Center: sees what you're trying to do when it's handling trash. They're going to come out of the woodwork to be against it. Wells Conference Center: They all want the solution. Wells Conference Center: They don't want to be part of it. Wells Conference Center: and they certainly don't want it in their backyard. I found out this the hard way, because I mean no sooner started work working successfully than I found the Deb Wells Conference Center: close Wells Conference Center: the plant in Old Town in Bangor run by Sawyer to accept and close their facility for ash. Wells Conference Center: So General Electric Company asked me, the developer find a place for hash. Wells Conference Center: Well, the State had determined no individual could find a place. It had to be the State and the State had tried for 5 years. It couldn't find a solution. Wells Conference Center: And what was I to do? Wells Conference Center: Well, I went to the Governor and I went to the State. Wells Conference Center: and I got permission this time to go and singly permit a landfill only to accept the ash so that her could proceed, and we wouldn't have the waste following up in our streets. Wells Conference Center: Township 30 was the Wells Conference Center: site we selected, and we researched it diligently, testing and everything you need to do to properly pervert a landfill. Wells Conference Center: We got turned down. Wells Conference Center: The solution came when the State bought the mill to the ridge, the landfill in old town, and they permitted us to take the ash there. So we were able to continue. Wells Conference Center: So it's not gonna be an easy solution. Wells Conference Center: and I know that it has to be. Wells Conference Center: Oh. Wells Conference Center: penalty, perhaps something to force the State and the towns and all of us. I've heard everybody testifying find a better solution. I'm suggesting double the fees

going to the landfill after 2 years. If you haven't come up with a solution. Wells Conference Center: Jim Dill is sitting here in the audience. He's going to hear from towns in his area like you've never heard before, because when they had to pay a double fee, or they're already paying too much, and it's coming out of their budget. They aren't going to stand for it. Wells Conference Center: The State will have a sum of money, because I'm suggesting all that extra money go into a fund to be administered by the State, and they, with the pressure from all the towns to do something. Wells Conference Center: will have some money to do it as well. Wells Conference Center: We'll be forced to do it, and I hope that this might work so it isn't a solution easy solution. It isn't a Wells Conference Center: very popular thing to do. In fact, I found out that my name was appeared on the front page of the Bangor Daily News Wells Conference Center: Suggestion. I was lying because when I was trying to permit the landfill, for Ash was to stay close down on me Wells Conference Center: alive on the opponents. Believe the opponents come out of the wood Wells Conference Center: the attorneys suggested. Tell the truth. Well, if you get a permit for a landfill and you're running it as a private person, you're gonna accept nuclear waste. Wells Conference Center: And so the Bangyard Daily News said I must be lying, and they put my name on the front page of the Bangor Daily news 30 years ago. I'm happy to report that 25 years later the publisher of the Bangor Daily News apologized to me. Wells Conference Center: The attorney who had suggested, tell the truth. Ralph came up and apologize for the paper at the time. Wells Conference Center: So, but there's something about trash. It brings up the worstness. So in finding solution. Wells Conference Center: I prepare you be prepared that you're gonna get a lot of criticism and very much. Wells Conference Center: very few complimentary remarks. But a solution must be found. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Thank you, Mr. Leonard. Is there anybody else who would like to come in? Wells Conference Center: I will alright hold on. Wells Conference Center: And again, if you could just introduce yourself when you get started. Sure. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. My name is Jamie Comstock. I'm an Ordo resident. I worked in public health for 18 years, testified quite a bit professionally and personally in front of some of the legislative committees at the State House and my town. But this is my 1st time here. I opposed the junior Burridge expansion application. My understanding is that hearing to determine if there's a substantial public benefit to accept the expansion application. Wells Conference Center: 1st of all, I'd like to say that if we were really interested in input from the public, there would have been more notice for the hearing. It would have not been held at the height of summer vacation, and at a time when the University of Maine students are gone, the timing and notice give the impression that is not actually desired. Wells Conference Center: Regarding the landfills actual benefit to the public, I would say, that depends on what your definition of public is. It seems to me that the entities could benefit mostly from this landfill, and any requested expansion are the owner, the operator, Sella, and the States, who are paying for their waste to be transported here Wells Conference Center: from doing community based public health for almost 2 decades. My definition of public is someone who is directly experiencing impacts. In this case it's the residents in the immediate and intermediate vicinity of the landfill who are impacted by smell and groundwater contamination. And anyone drinking water from the Pascal aquifer which is a lot of people. Wells Conference Center: In my efforts to get to speed on this issue. Before this hearing, I found reports of uncovered waste leaching into the groundwater smell fires, lack of regulation, and lack of

transparency. Wells Conference Center: I learned that Costella purchases drinking water for residents who live close to the landfill, and I heard that Casella pays property taxes for some residents. Wells Conference Center: Environmental justice is a substantial component in determining public benefit, and is defined as the right to be protected from environmental pollution to live in and enjoy a clean and helpful environment as it stands now, Jennifer Bridge robs those living around it from their right to environmental justice Wells Conference Center: and an expansion will reduce that further. In my research I also learned that all 3 main State owned landfills are in Oscar County. I would say that this is a disproportionate environmental injustice. For the people of Upstate County. We're giving environmental justice to others in other States, at the expense of all the people living here. Wells Conference Center: This this expansion application is more about meeting the landfill needs of the people living in other States than it is about meeting our own, and the people here are paying the price. I would encourage you to not support this expansion application, and I thank you for your time. Wells Conference Center: Excellent! Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Anybody else you'd like to provide. Wells Conference Center: Oh, good afternoon, everyone. Wells Conference Center: I'm Jim Dill, and I'm local representative Wells Conference Center: here in Old Town, and I just want to 1st thank all of you for being here today and speaking up. Wells Conference Center: And the only thing I really wanna say is, I did have a bill in. I will certainly be submitting another bill to all this fall soon by again. Wells Conference Center: And this is an immediate problem for both, as you've heard. But this is a major major problem for the State of Maine, and we have to have a solution. And we have to work together to get that solution. I don't know if it's expansion or not expansion. Of course none of us wanted our backyard, so I don't see it expanded here. Wells Conference Center: but we have to do something to do with solid state. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Representative Wells Conference Center: anyone else. Wells Conference Center: Afternoon Nationalism. Wells Conference Center: Hi, Susan, my name is Dana Collin. I co- executive director of Slingshot. We're Marnell, health and justice organization. But I'm actually going to be reading comments on behalf of tribal ambassador, William Bryant. Wells Conference Center: The Knoxville nation, continues to have great concerns over the management of an encourage landfill which has a negative impact on our lands, waters, and people. Wells Conference Center: The practices employed at the site over the years have added to harmful contamination of our secret homeland to the river. The health wellbeing of our systems is directly linked to health, well being of the river. Wells Conference Center: due to industrial and waste management. Chemicals. Pfas affected the river. We have been able to continue our cultural value of being a substantive fishing people, because the fish in the river are healthy enough for us to consume more than small mass. Wells Conference Center: This destruction is not just about food sources, but the connection for our ancestors, and the very ways of being suffering due to the present nature of profit or people, and the ethos of environmental justice that plays marginalized communities in harm's way. Wells Conference Center: The expansion against nation, who are the original stewards of these lands and waters, dating back over 10,000 years, coupled with questionable nature of this initiative, is in line with the State statutes. There's no reason to think favorably of it. We have a voice to the assertion that there's no public benefit. This expansion quite the opposite. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: I think Wells Conference Center: there anybody else in the room would like to comment.

Wells Conference Center: Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to make a comment. I'm Laurie Osher. I represent ornament legislature. Wells Conference Center: and I'm an internal scientist. When I moved to May, 1999, I was quite impressed that there was Wells Conference Center: a goal to reduce Wells Conference Center: the amount of waste going to landfills. Wells Conference Center: However, the State has not made it a priority to figure out how to do that, and by continuing to increase the landfill, there's still not even that. Wells Conference Center: so that I believe that the piece should Denise allocation expanding the Jennifer Bridge landfill is not public benefit. Wells Conference Center: providing more space in this for any other landfill does not follow the State subway waste management, hierarchy, that hierarchy provides a mandate to minimize, waste and go into landfills. Wells Conference Center: What's needed in the State is for the State to develop a program to reduce waste generation. The main legislature passed an extended reduced responsibility Wells Conference Center: law for packaging, and this is one step towards reducing waste. The State must also improve, recycling, and incentivize the recycling materials that are fed and going in solid waste disposal landfills in the State, and I will also follow the lead of my colleague to put in bills and ask any of the people here to contact me with an idea on how we might. Wells Conference Center: trying to make legislative solution to address these issues. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Very, Senator. Wells Conference Center: Anyone else? Wells Conference Center: Alright, seeing none. Wells Conference Center: We are at about the time that we had estimated for the afternoon session. We will be starting back up again at 5 30 all. You're here today, and you'd be welcome to attend this evening. I would ask that if you've already presented orally that any additional comments you'd like to provide if you could please send them in writing to Karen Community at the address provided on the Handout. Wells Conference Center: And thank you again very much for coming. We really do appreciate the time you took with us this afternoon, and all of the thoughts and suggestions that you've provided. Wells Conference Center: Oh, excuse Wells Conference Center: Where can we set to read those written comments that where they'll be published online, and also what is the deadline for written comments? And I believe we're supposed to mail them to this. Yes, that's a great clarifying question. So all of the comments will be posted at that web address that is on the handout Wells Conference Center: so if you go to that deal that will say public comments, and then be able to click on that, and it will have all of them. And we may have some already those that you receive, so we'll try to get them off as quick as we can, as we receive them in terms of a deadline for submission. We have a statutory deadline to make a decision. We'll need to try to draft the document that reflects that deadline which is on the 23rd Wells Conference Center: so the sooner you can provide the recognition. I not want to give you a hard deadline for submitting them. Just recognize the closer we get to that position deadline the less time we'll have to review and submit as we try to come up with that decision. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Alright, thanks, everybody, and have a great afternoon. Wells Conference Center: Alright, I think I'm gonna go ahead and get us started. Wells Conference Center: We've got zoom going. And so again, for anybody who is planning to present your comments this evening. Appreciate it. If you put your name on the sign in sheet we'll check one more time, and just a little bit and then assuming that we'll have some time after we get through those on the list, if there are folks who decided that you want to comment, but didn't sign up. We'll go ahead and give you an opportunity to come up.

Wells Conference Center: There's also a handout that was at the table that you would have come by on your way in. It's got some useful references on it that will be referring to, and it also has the contact information for decipent written comments. So if you didn't grab that so definitely grab that on your way out. Wells Conference Center: So thank you all very much for attending this public meeting regarding the public benefit determination, application for the Juniper Ridge landfill. I'm Melinda Loison, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. Today's meeting is being broadcast online and will be recorded. Wells Conference Center: The recording is going to be available on our website. And the link to that website is on that handout. You can also get there. If you go to Dt's webpage right on our main page we have a link to Major Projects, and then on that page there'll be a link to Jennifer Ridge landfill information. Wells Conference Center: All of the public comments that we receive as well as recording of today's meeting will be posted on our website. So you'll have access to that. And comments that we've received already are already posted online. Wells Conference Center: Our online attendees are not going to be able to participate today. I'll only be able to listen. But we will be having an online public meeting next Friday on July 26, th Wells Conference Center: for anyone who wishes to provide comments orally that was not able to attend today in person, I would note for everyone who's here. That the mics in the room are all live. So in addition to this microphone and the one at the podium that will be asking people to come up to to present your comments, the mics that are above all of you out there are also live because you can't limit which ones are on Wells Conference Center: so just be cautious that if you're having any private conversations that you don't want to be part of the recording for the meeting. You might want to take those outside. Wells Conference Center: I understand that there's a lot of interest in this application and concern. So I just asked, before we get into our agenda, that everyone try to be respectful of our speakers. If Wells Conference Center: we are not going to be engaging in the QA. Section here? So as speakers are coming up, they'll be presenting information. If there are questions that you have that we don't answer today, so I'll try to give you some information, and then we'll have a presentation, and you'll have an opportunity to present your comments to us, and if you have some questions that we haven't already answered. Wells Conference Center: go ahead and note those when you present your comments today? Or submit them in your very comments, and we may not be able to get answers back to all of you on all of your questions, but if it looks like there's some information that's been missing in terms of what we're providing to the public, we'll make sure we get that additional information out and keep our website updated. Wells Conference Center: So our agenda first, st I'm going to introduce those of us at the table. Then I'm going to go over briefly what may law requires for standing landfill, and how today fits into that process? Wells Conference Center: Then the applicants consultant are Lisa Turner will explain what the Bureau of general services submitted in their application to the Department, and then the remainder of this meeting is for us to hear from you any information you would like to share with them will help the Dp. Determine if the application needs the criteria in main law for approval. Wells Conference Center: So with me today, Suzanne Miller, director of the Bureau of Mediation Waste Management, Carla Hopkins, director of the Division of Materials, Management and Beauty. The Project manager will be reviewing the application, and it is her name and addresses on the handout she'll be receiving and managing all of the public comments Wells Conference Center: so briefly. I'll explain why we're here today. Expanding a

landfill requires 2 separate review processes and decisions by the Department. First, st the Department must determine whether a proposed landfill expansion will provide a substantial public benefit. Wells Conference Center: There's specific criteria, and may well, the Dp. Must consider to make that decision. Wells Conference Center: If the Department finds the expansion will provide a substantial public benefit. Only then can the landfill owner submit a license application, and that's when the department will evaluate more technical aspects of the landfill application. Like the engineering design and mutate Wells Conference Center: the State of means. Bureau of General Services submitted an application for a public benefit determination, and the De accepted the application as complete for processing. On June 24th Wells Conference Center: main law only gives Ep. 60 days to issue a decision on this application, so that deadline for us to make a decision is August. Wells Conference Center: Dp must determine that the application satisfies the criteria in main law that will certify section 1310, double, in which premiered and Ap. Schools, and are provided for your reference on that handout. Wells Conference Center: The criteria are that a landfill expansion must meet immediate short-term or long-term capacity needs of the State. Wells Conference Center: Considering local and regional needs. The regional nature of the development and use of disposal capacity due to transportation, distances, and other factors. Wells Conference Center: It must be consistent with the state, waste management, recycling plan, management hierarchy, which is also on that window for your reference. Wells Conference Center: It must not be inconsistent with local, regional or state waste collection, storage, transportation, processing, or disposal, and it must not be inconsistent with ensuring environmental justice for the community in which the facility or expansion is proposed. Wells Conference Center: Environmental justice is defined in the law as the right to be protected from environmental pollution and to live in and enjoy a clean and helpful environment, regardless of class disability, ethnicity, income, national origin, or religion. Wells Conference Center: Environmental justice includes the protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of waste management rules. Wells Conference Center: So today's meeting has a very specific, and for others to hear your comments on. Whether an expansion of the juniors originally provides a substantial public benefit, according to the criteria I just went over. Wells Conference Center: In addition to today's meeting and virtual meeting next week, the people written public comments on the application until about mid August, when Staff will need to prepare a proud decision. So just as a reminder. Wells Conference Center: our deadline for making a decision is August 23.rd I said, this earlier today, our afternoon meeting. We're not establishing a hard deadline for written comments to be received, but we have to issue a decision by August 23, rd and we will need some time before that date Wells Conference Center: to wrap up that decision. And so we ask that you provide your comments as soon as you can, sooner the better, so that we have opportunity to review those and bear in mind that the closer we get to the deadline the less time we'll have to consider those comments before you make a decision. Wells Conference Center: So with that, I'd invite Lisa Turner from Cbn. To come up and give us a presentation on the application from Bureau of general services. Wells Conference Center: Still. Wells Conference Center: this is Wells Conference Center: good evening, everyone. Thanks for coming. Wells Conference Center: My name's Lisa Turner. I work for Senior engineers, and we've been the design and construction engineers for this project. Since this inception. Wells

Conference Center: the owner of the Landville is the State of Maine, and the Bureau of General Services manage it on behalf of the State of Maine. Wells Conference Center: Priscilla. Wells Conference Center: through new skating clinical operations. Wells Conference Center: has an operating service agreement with Bureau of General Services, and they manage the landfill. Wells Conference Center: There's a picture of the landfill. It's a little older. It's a little bigger than that now. Wells Conference Center: but it's an awfully pretty picture, though Wells Conference Center: you can see here Wells Conference Center: it's a little north Wells Conference Center: of where we are. Wells Conference Center: If you drive up 95 to exit 1 99, get off on the Banner road. Wells Conference Center: and immediately turn left. You drive into landfill. Wells Conference Center: The landfill was originally permitted and built in 1996 for the mill and old town, which at the time is sold by James River Wells Conference Center: in 2,017, it was expanded for that area. Wells Conference Center: and we're now proposing an additional expansion on the north. Wells Conference Center: The landfill will be constructed with a 4 foot thick liner. Wells Conference Center: so Wells Conference Center: the waste. If you can imagine the waste sitting here. Wells Conference Center: there's a 4 foot or a 1 foot thick layer of sand to collect any liquid that comes out of the waste, or any rain that falls on it, and you know they do try and limit how much area is open to keep it to a small and operating area as possible. Wells Conference Center: Underneath that sand is a drainage. Geo. Composite that also collects the water. So I brought some samples of materials. This is the drainage, Geocosit. It's got fabric on either side, and the spring water faster than a foot of sand will. Wells Conference Center: All the liquid is held in Wells Conference Center: with an 80 mil thick sheet of high density, polyethylene, Geo. Membrane, or plastic liner. So just for comparison like a regular trash bag that you have in the kitchen is about 3 quarters of a mil thick. So this is over a hundred times Wells Conference Center: underneath. That is a geosynthetic flight line. Gcl, so this is 2 pieces of fabric with powdered bed, night clay in between. Wells Conference Center: When this moisense just from the water in the ground, the bed night clay will hydrate and it expands. So it makes a really impermeable material. And I'm gonna set these out on the table out there, and you're welcome to look at them out of bed Wells Conference Center: and under the Gcl. Is a photo play. Wells Conference Center: That's just a leakage collection underneath. That is a second layer which is the leak detection layer. So we've got another foot of sand, another drainage, Geocosit, another plastic liner, another foot of clay, and that's the leak detection layer. So that's what the landfill is going to be. Wells Conference Center: So we need the land. The towns must provide the disposal of solid waste. Wells Conference Center: No need. And so this is a law, 1989. Each municipality shall provide solid waste disposal services. That's pretty clear still. Law Wells Conference Center: 90 93. Another law. Wells Conference Center: it stated, unlicensed and licensed open municipal solid waste landfills that have not been closed must be closed. Wells Conference Center: So with this Wells Conference Center: 400 town dumps were closed, and for those of us that remember the town. Dumps closing them was a good thing. A lot of them were built in gravel pits, or practically on a river. They were not a good situation. They were collecting the Leachate. It was not a modern landfill, so closing those was a good idea. Wells Conference Center: A few tiles kept Wells Conference Center: a reasonable landfill, and the State decided to go with a regional waste disposal policy. Wells Conference Center: So some of the towns that still have their own landfill mid coast Oops

Wells Conference Center: mid coast is 4 Towns and their Landville is in Rockport. They take CD. Which is construction and demo degree only. Rockland is also CD. Bath takes a mix of waste. Wells Conference Center: There's several other towns that have really small CD landfills. Wells Conference Center: Augusta takes a mix of waste and aristic waste solutions, which is 2 landfills, one in Prestyle and one in Fort Fairfield, and they take a mix of waste. So these are ones that are towns only they take less than 11% of all waste in the State. Wells Conference Center: There's other landfills that you can pay to dispose of. Wells Conference Center: So these include. And and so again, what I've got is Wells Conference Center: the tonnage of waste dispos in 2022. So Heartland took a little bit Wells Conference Center: Mvac, which is an incinerator, and offer the Landville in Lewiston, took about 5% Wells Conference Center: perk, which is now called Eagle Point energy, which is the incinerator in Warrington, I'm gonna call it per cause. I think that's how most of us remember it. That's an incinerator that was open is now closed. So they took 5.7 of the waste, and it got the residual ad 1st E domain in South Portland is an incinerator. Atlanta Wells Conference Center: crossroads in large walk is the landfill, and if you add up all of these, it's 38% of all the time that was disposed in 2022. Wells Conference Center: Juniper Ridge takes 51.3% of tonnage, so you can see that it's 3 times larger than the next largest landfill Wells Conference Center: and 5 right handed was open. It's it was closed in May of 2020. So they were taking taking material and trying to do a lot of recycling and some Wells Conference Center: digestion. Wells Conference Center: Every county in Maine uses the Juniper Ridge landfill. You can see no Scott County and Cumberland take the most tonnage of waste to Juniper Ridge. Wells Conference Center: Kennebec, and Andrew Scott, and take a hundred 1,000 to 150,000 tons Wells Conference Center: a little yet less from York and Sag. Ad hoc. But every county takes some amount. Waste land. Wells Conference Center: It's critical for the State's tenure waste disposal needs Wells Conference Center: by taking 51.3% of the waste. Wells Conference Center: It's it simply is necessary for the State to continue. This Wells Conference Center: juniper bridge supports other facilities like the recycling and the waste energy by taking bypass waste. So that's something that when the incinerator has to close for a planned or an unplanned maintenance event Wells Conference Center: that waste has to go somewhere. Sometimes they can hang on to it, convert later. Sometimes they can. They make ash. Wells Conference Center: Some of the places have their own Ashley Hill, some of them don't. And then residual. So Wells Conference Center: even in your best recycling, you know. You look at the recycling bins. There's stuff in there that doesn't belong. There's stuff in there that can't be recycled. That's residual. All of that gets Wells Conference Center: gets sent to June for rich Wells Conference Center: Jewish. Linfield is the last resort for many towns that have agreements for the park and fiber right. They're not working now. There's nowhere else to take it Wells Conference Center: without the expansion. Every other one of the paid to dispose facilities would need to expand, to take more than double what they take. Now. So you think back to that slide. Wells Conference Center: they all together took 38% of the waste, and Jim Bridge takes 51%, so they would have to take all of that extra in addition to what they're now taking. Wells Conference Center: So expansion of the Juno bridge, landfill is a public need. Wells Conference Center: How soon is the capacity needed? Wells Conference Center: So here we've got the amount of remaining yardage left Wells Conference Center: for 2021, 2022, 2023, you know below that obviously is estimated. And you can see it's about a million yards a

year that's getting used. And that's probably gonna continue. So by 2028. Wells Conference Center: We've used that all over the garage. Wells Conference Center: If we look more broadly at all the landfills in May Wells Conference Center: you can see that by 2032 we're using up the last Space Wells Conference Center: Index Wells Conference Center: juniper bridge landfill, including the expansion, is consistent with state cell waste management. Hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: It provides a place to dispose of material that cannot be processed by incinerators, volume reduction facilities for recycling programs, and as much as any of us would like to think that we'd like to recycle our way of all waste. Wells Conference Center: We know it's not realistic. We've seen what's in the bins, and we've seen the other stuff you take that you can't even begin to think about putting in a recycling bin. Wells Conference Center: It provides backup when those facilities aren't operating and that includes that marketing domain. We talked about perfect and fiber right, but the other incinerators also send bypass. Wells Conference Center: It provides a place for materials that cannot use the speed for waste, energy facilities for compost, because not everything can go in Wells Conference Center: any one of the alternative places Wells Conference Center: the landfill will produce and distribute renewable natural gases. They've got a plant that's being constructed. It's at the final stages of startup, and it should be it should be distributing renewable natural gas fairly soon Wells Conference Center: Casella separately runs their 0 store recycling operation, which reduces disposal volume, so Casella is involved in recycling. Separate the landfill. Wells Conference Center: and a lot of times rely on that. Wells Conference Center: So what type of waste is accepted at Juniper rich landfill. Wells Conference Center: I'll Wells Conference Center: there's a long list, and I'm not gonna read it. Wells Conference Center: But there's a lot of stuff that you don't really think about. Wells Conference Center: and that's only half of it. There's all of that, too. Wells Conference Center: So there's a lot of different things that Wells Conference Center: aren't going to be urban. Fill soils. Wells Conference Center: treated biomedical waste. These are not things that we're gonna say Wells Conference Center: it's gotta go somewhere. Wells Conference Center: What Juniper Ridge does not take is hazardous waste. Wells Conference Center: It does not take municipal solid waste except when another facility is unable to process it. It's not permitted to take straight, solid waste, it can only take the bypass. Wells Conference Center: So so provides disposal reliability for many towns when the primary facility goes down and given the processing issues at Perkin Fiber junior Richlandville is the last resort for many towns Wells Conference Center: was what a treatment like a slush. Wells Conference Center: as has been in the news. In April 2022, the State legislature banned the land, spreading wastewater treatment plant sludge, and because of the ban. 90% of that sludge now goes to Jennifer rich landfill. And it's really hard to think that we're gonna get rid of that to the other places that only take 38% waste. Wells Conference Center: Juniper Ridge landfill is consistent with the State's environmental justice goals. Wells Conference Center: Jim Bridge landfill has a long history of dependable operations and compliance with environmental and safety regulations. The groundwater and service water are tested 3 times a year to ensure compliance. Wells Conference Center: The air emissions are constantly monitored. Wells Conference Center: The host communities which include Old Town and Allen receive 2.6 million and host community benefits. Wells Conference Center: The neighbors of the landfill receive property, tax reimbursement, and a property value guarantee. And that's not required by State law. That's just something that

Costella choose to do for the neighbors Wells Conference Center: throughout this permitting process, for the expansion. Facility, is planning to have more public information meetings than required to make sure that the public has the opportunity to understand the project and know how to participate in the licensing process. Wells Conference Center: Casella will provide funding for area scholarship opportunities, and that's similar to what they've done with with an educational benefit at one of their landfills in New York that Costello runs and is all good state in New York. Wells Conference Center: This Wells Conference Center: Billy Wells Conference Center: the State has an obligation to provide Wells Conference Center: or waste disposal. Wells Conference Center: So this was in 1989 Wells Conference Center: staple of the department may not approve an application for a new commercial, solid, waste disposal facility, so Wells Conference Center: any existing commercial facility could expand. But there couldn't be any new facilities. So with that, the State took over responsibility for providing landfill space. Wells Conference Center: the expansion is needed. Wells Conference Center: This is from the Main Materials Management Plan, published by the main department of Environmental Protection. In January of this year. Wells Conference Center: statewide main peers have adequate capacity for at least 10 years before several medical facilities reach their capacity. This assumes, however, that an expansion license, application is both received by and approved by the Department for the Jrl. Facility as of the date of this report. The Department has received a pirate investigation report from Jrl. For a future expansion. Wells Conference Center: The loss of Jrl. As a disposal facility would create catastrophic capacity issues as it receives over 50% of all material land built in May annually. Wells Conference Center: separately. Brown and Caldwell did an evaluation of what to do with all that was water treatment, and they called it a biosolids report. Wells Conference Center: So that was December 2023. That was published, and they said that without the additional capacity from an expansion of Jrl. The State faces a dire situation. Wells Conference Center: They recommended that the state work is simple, to ensure that an application expand Jrl. Is submitted as soon as possible, and concluded that expansion is critical. Jrl. Were not expanded. There will be no mainland capacity to meet solid waste needs will need to be sent out of state at greatly increased costs for utilities and ratepayers. Wells Conference Center: So, in summary expansion of the junior rich landfill meets a public need, and therefore provides public benefit. Wells Conference Center: is critical. To meeting the State's tenure with souls Wells Conference Center: is the landfill. Last resort for many towns Wells Conference Center: helps the towns meet their legal responsibility to provide waste disposal, and helps the State meet its obligation to provide a waste disposal. Now that none of commercial facilities can be licensed. Wells Conference Center: And I'm gonna leave these samples out on the table and you're welcome to look at them. They're they're pretty unique things. You you're gonna run into construction Wells Conference Center: the eagles. Wells Conference Center: Thank you, sir. Wells Conference Center: So now I'd like to begin our public comment session for this meeting. I have seen a few people wander in since we got started, so I'll just repeat a couple of things just in case anybody miss it. Wells Conference Center: There is a sign sheet. If you would like to provide comments this evening. That's helpful for us for the purposes of the record, to keep track of who we've received comments from. I only have a few people who signed up so far. So just as I'm trying to gauge what we're gonna have in terms of timing. Is there anybody in the room who is planning to comment, who hasn't signed up yet? Wells

Conference Center: Okay, and for anybody who has commented already. I I would ask that if you have additional comments to provide, you can submit those in writing. Unless, I think in some cases we may have people who are here to present other people comments which is fine, to note that we would ask if you've already presented your information to the record, any additional information. Wells Conference Center: So I'm going to say, let's try to eliminate comments to about 5 min, and we can go over a little bit if we need to, but just to try to make sure that everybody's got time to be heard. And like I said, any additional comments that you want to provide can absolutely be submitted in writing all of the comments that we've received this afternoon this evening that we will receive Wells Conference Center: receive online next week, and everything we get in writing, all gets considered with the same waste by department staff. And so really, your presentations today are important in particular, for others to hear you. So as people are putting together their written comments. It might be helpful if they hear some points from you that might spur things that they're thinking about, that they would want to address in their written. Wells Conference Center: So I would ask you try to think about the criteria that I outlined earlier, that are the things that the Department has to keep in mind when making the decision on the public benefit. Wells Conference Center: So with that, I'm gonna get started. And the 1st person I have is, I'm sorry I'm going to mess this up. Wells Conference Center: Sue Hasini Dash. Wells Conference Center: That was perfect. Wells Conference Center: Good evening. My name is Suzanne. Gosh! And I'm a staff attorney at Conservation Law Foundation, or seal up. Sela aims to protect communities from the dangers posed by unsustainable waste management practices. Wells Conference Center: We appreciate the opportunity to comment today on the application for determination of public benefit for the junior provision books, which Wells Conference Center: we believe that the application must be denied because the proposed exemption does not meet legal standards for positive public benefit, and patients Wells Conference Center: to start expanding. Landfill capacity is the very last priority in the safe, solid waste, hierarchy, and completely subverts the safe recycling and compost angles. Wells Conference Center: Main Dep. States the Land Bill's expansion will add 15 to 20 years to its capacity, which allows them to ensure its ten-year, long-term capacity goals as required by the public benefit determination statute. Wells Conference Center: But that statement is based on capacity needs that arise only because Darrell's operator, Casella, has been sponsoring these limited chemical capacity on imported waste, untreated sludge, and huge volumes of construction and demolition debris. Wells Conference Center: meaning the UK acknowledges that any expansion landfill is a band-aid solution. That will not address the long-term shortcomings of the State's current waste management system. Wells Conference Center: expanding new provision without implementing specific conditions to reduce the volume of disposed waste increased diversion, and recycled more will be a violation of the public benefit required that any plan expansion must promote the soft waste hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: Moreover, much of the waste now going up the landfill originated from Massachusetts. Wells Conference Center: Any approval of the application must include a condition rectifying the lack of accountability and continued use of non state-owned over out-of-state waste. Wells Conference Center: Casella has also substantially increased their disposal rate of oversight. Bulky waste without regard for waste reduction toxicity, reduction or preserving landfill capacity casella is obligated to reduce the volume, sludge and bulk, preserve capacity, not

simply fill their label, extra bulky waste to balance out the increased sludge volume. Wells Conference Center: Looking at the environmental justice, criterion. The extension does not ensure communities in which to facilitate for those Wells Conference Center: for starters. The discussion of ej and application is minimal and inadequate, and explain how the extension is not inconsistent with insurance. Ej. Wells Conference Center: Cassella puts forth initiatives that have absolutely nothing to do with protecting communities from the environmental pollution of Jr. Wells Conference Center: What's more, some of the initiatives to sell the points to as ways satisfy the agent component of the public benefit determination are programs that currently exist because they are already required by existing law. Wells Conference Center: Moreover, Casella attempts to argue that the minimal efforts going beyond their basic legal public notice requirements will fulfill what meaningful involvement requires. Wells Conference Center: If meaningful involvement is equated to a project proponent fulfilling the basic notice requirements, then this part of the Ej provision will not have the necessary law. What is meaningful about following the existing basic requirements Wells Conference Center: regarding environmental pollution, common hazards like last year's fire at Gerald burning, burning the population living around the landfill. Wells Conference Center: The land falls next to neighbors, separate air quality impacts, and the greater quality of life, and quite possibly their health. Wells Conference Center: In the last several months the Bureau of Channel Services, received dozens of complaints from local residents about gerol odors impacting their quality of life Wells Conference Center: is one of the communities in which the extensions proposed Wells Conference Center: upholding a community's right to be protected from environmental pollution requires, and a community's exposure to pollution as a whole, not merely the pollution and meaning from a singular source. Wells Conference Center: The Panoxa nation is unjustly burdened by landfill pollution and an expansion only worse cumulative impacts this time. Wells Conference Center: and then also river holds significant values for the members of the nation whose way of life, economic activities. Wells Conference Center: family and stress ancestral wisdom are intricately connected to the Peninsula River basin. Wells Conference Center: This contamination of traditional water and food sources of the Penobscot nation is part of a larger web of disproportionate harm that the State's landfill has exacted on the Peninsula for decades since man since new commercial landfills. In 1989, all 3 State-owned landfills were built along a 50 mile stretch of land at the heart of the Penobscot Reservation. Wells Conference Center: In addition, there are 72 close samples in the Moscow River watershed. Many of them are online bills that easily lead toxic into their own water. Wells Conference Center: Relatedly, the Commissioner must require to Sella to treat Derelcje for Ppas Onsite as the commissioner of any approval of the application Wells Conference Center: requiring a seller to treat their leachate Leachate for Ppas before sending it to Niagara's wastewater treatment plant is not novel. It actually would align with me. It actually would align Maine with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, who is required at systemic permit as a covenant that can sell a pilot Leachate treatment system on site before sending the Leachate to Vermont's wastewater treatment plant Wells Conference Center: and and so in some we believe that the application must be denied because it violates the criteria of the public benefit. Determination standards. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Next is Kathy Paul. Wells Conference Center: Good evening, everybody. I'm from Oxford Nation, and I'm been against this juniper bridge, so I

feel Wells Conference Center: for a long time since they 1st thought of it. We didn't want it. We didn't like what they were doing to the lands. Wells Conference Center: We invest so much money into the river to get clean. We want to introduce salmon. Excuse me, salmon into the water again, but we have this great big monster out there that they want to build. So we take everybody's class from our State Wells Conference Center: and have Wells Conference Center: as find out about fires that started up here. There was a fire at Juneau Ridge Wells Conference Center: here last year. I didn't come this afternoon. I was hoping someone would talk about that. Why, that was not publicized. What happened. And they want all this information from us, but they give us nothing to do meetings. I didn't even know about this. Wells Conference Center: I'm only one person, but Wells Conference Center: I'm I'm a person that can follow and get many voices if I have to. So I just wanna let you know how many of you know about that fire know about the fire? What concept do you know? Wells Conference Center: No one? No one. Wells Conference Center: Okay. Well. Wells Conference Center: that is a big concern of mine, and the other concern is how often I smell that sofa type stuff Wells Conference Center: I know I knew when the Wells Conference Center: paper mills closed Wells Conference Center: that we wouldn't smell anyone that was for a little while, and then the smells back, and the river is starting to look like a funny color. We can see it changing and feel that. We're stewards of the river. We know it. Wells Conference Center: It has. It has feelings and things and purposes just like it serves us for our bodies, and then we're gonna go and ruin it all. Take where our livelihood to bring back the segment. We're doing all these wonderful things for what? Wells Conference Center: What? Just don't do, provision, poison, everything. Wells Conference Center: ruin the land. Wells Conference Center: I don't know if they've done any studies on the lead chain, but we really need to look at what they are telling us, and I've been involved in this listening to this for 10 years. Wells Conference Center: and I still don't know what's in the Leachate. They still didn't do anything to see what, how long? Term practice long term. All I know is everyone stop swimming so eating the fish every once in a while before they can do it again. But I'm not gonna sit back quietly. I wouldn't be really make noises, and I just wanted to let you know that I'm here, and there'll be more. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Our next commenter is Denise Smith. Wells Conference Center: It's pretty much Wells Conference Center: so. My name is Denise Smith, and I'm a resident. I live just above Juniper Ridge and to say that Juniper Ridge is pretty is offensive, and I just want to say that Wells Conference Center: yeah, is offensive to me, and the fact that it sounds like almost this feels like a done deal, because the State has put us in a position where already accepting 50% of the State waste, and that it is critical that we accept more. Because now there's no place else to put it to. Wells Conference Center: feels very Wells Conference Center: heavy to me and I'm not sure where we go from here. But it doesn't feel like expansion, is the answer. So there's where I really wanted to focus on was environmental justice. And so what I wanted to talk about is the environmental justice of the towns. Surrounding the mill. There's a lot that talks about the rules that state that we are Wells Conference Center: we should be. There's justice around the environment and what we are Wells Conference Center: and Wells Conference Center: supposed to receive by. Wells Conference Center: Sorry I'm really nervous. So one of the requirements for the the mill site or the down site is that we. Wells Conference Center: it does not interfere with viewing scenic viewing areas. And so one of the things that they did was determine that it does

not interfere with viewing areas, and that was one of the expansion determination that it does not interfere with the push off stream. It doesn't interfere with Bennik Road or any of those things, and I just wanted to be here to speak for the little guy who? Not. It does not interfere with those things. Wells Conference Center: However, it does interfere with homes. There's lots of homes along Route 43 homes along the back row. There's lots of places where people build the home, and they wake up in the morning, and they look out their window, and all they see is one big dump mill site where they used to see the sunrise, or they used to see woods, or they used to see, you know, the sunset, and now they see the mill, and they're only gonna Wells Conference Center: but they now they see the dump and they're now only gonna see an expansion of the dump. Wells Conference Center: and that's not okay. And now the air quality. Second thing air quality it smells. It smells all the time. So the the the slide that said that the air quality was tested and it doesn't smell it smells it smells like sulfur all times a day. Different time of day. It's it did get a little bit better for a while. It does not. It's not better. Wells Conference Center: It's comes and goes and that can be healthy. That definitely imposes on quality of life. Especially when you wanna go outside and look at your big dumb Wells Conference Center: site out the window when you used to see the sunrise. So that's not healthy. And that also counts because we count Wells Conference Center: water quality. So yes, maybe that is tested. However, Juniper Ridge gives water to surrounding residents to drink. So if they're giving water to surrounding residents to drink. Clearly the water is not okay to drink. Wells Conference Center: so they're not drinking the water, and but we're bathing in the water. You know we're gardening in with the the water that's getting into the land. And we're eating the vegetables. That's not, you know, the with water that's not okay to drink. And so how is that? Not poisoning us all? And how is that? Not okay, how is that? Okay, how is that? Okay. Wells Conference Center: so lastly, I just wanna say that some of these benefits that we're supposed to be getting which come with, you know. Wells Conference Center: taxes being reimbursed or scholarships to the community. And all these things that are supposed to be beneficial to us all is more to me like bribery. Wells Conference Center: And again, it's more like big business coming in and taking over the little guy who's just trying to live a life where we wanna look at sunsets. And we wanna look at the woods and we wanna breathe clean air. And in our homes on clean, you know, gardens with clean gardens and grass, and enjoy our small lives. Wells Conference Center: Where, in our small accounts that's Wells Conference Center: happy and clean, and that to me is worth more than trash. And so I just wanna make sure that the state and the cities and the town recognizes that we are more important than trash. Literally, literally, we are more important than trash. Wells Conference Center: and I think that it's important that they defend that that they defend, that we are more important than fresh. Wells Conference Center: I'm here. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Alright. Wells Conference Center: So that's the end of the list I have for signage. Oh, I think Wells Conference Center: hmm! Wells Conference Center: Next loops into our planners Wells Conference Center: apologies. I'm already off my laptop because I didn't have time to man describe all this. But hello! My name is Lucy Cara Flanders. I'm an organizer with community water justice, a network of impacted communities across me, working and protect water rights and access for future generations. Wells Conference Center: I also have family and friends who live downstream of the Juniper Ridge landfill. Wells Conference Center: It is with their well-being in mind that I urge you to deny

Estella's application for a public benefit determination. Wells Conference Center: In 2018 the World Bank reported that unless drastic measures are taken, global waste product production per year will have increased 70% Wells Conference Center: in 2050. Wells Conference Center: As a result, the already massive waste management industries grow. Wells Conference Center: To some. This presents a lucrative investment opportunity Wells Conference Center: as we generate more waste and find newer places to keep it. Wells Conference Center: But for the rest of us who will have to live with the impacts of these sites, and who honor our obligation to ensure a healthier environment for the benefit of future generations. This is a crisis in the making. Casella continues to disrespect the environment and the wishes of the community as they import out of State waste and dump, inadequately treated waste into the Penobscot River. Wells Conference Center: The consequences of their mismanagement erupted into a fire. On May 15th of last year. Wells Conference Center: Myself and a couple of other members of Sunlight Media Collective were the only media on site that evening. It was a terrifying sight. Wells Conference Center: I don't even smell. Wells Conference Center: Within a short period of time my clothes and vehicle were covered in a filming layer of ash. Despite not even being directly downwind. Wells Conference Center: The wind carried. The dioxin filled smoke and ash. East on Penobscot nation lands the river and miles of nearby forests and residential areas. We know that the ash and smoke directly impacted Penobscot nation citizens. It's been 14 months, and the cause of the fire remains a mystery to the public, yet still state and local officials continuously defer to excel Wells Conference Center: with this history in mind, suggesting that an expansion of Juniper Ridge Landfill under Casella's mismanagement of management. I apologize, is in line with the framework of an environmental justice Wells Conference Center: is textbook greenwashing Wells Conference Center: without transparency, and a serious effort at restructuring our waste stream. Why on earth should we give more power and market stability to trash profiteers who gain from cramming as much waste as they can to this land. Wells Conference Center: The solutions are out there. We should evaluate the waste we generate from a waste, hierarchy model which favors prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling, and energy recovery before disposal. Wells Conference Center: The longer we continue to let profit be the deciding measure of what waste we put into the world, the greater the burden we dump onto our children. Wells Conference Center: I have been involved with the youth environmental movement for most of my life. Wells Conference Center: In recent years the work of many organizers and advocates has culminated in the State, beginning to incorporate environmental justice into their considerations and processes. Wells Conference Center: The environmental injustice embodied by Casella's mismanagement of Juniper. Rich has already jeopardized the health of nonstop tribal citizens and others who live downstream. The State now has an opportunity to act with integrity Wells Conference Center: and back up your commitments to environmental justice, with action to ensure the safety of impacted communities. Please show us that the language of including and centering impacted communities is more than an attractive window dress Wells Conference Center: as a publicly owned landfill. We all have a stake in JR. Mills oversight. Wells Conference Center: Many in this room live within reach of the impacts of its mismanagement. I hope you will consider more than the short term limited benefits proposed by Casella and their affiliates, and listen to the impacted community members and consider the burden that an expanded juniper Ridge landfill, under Casella's management, would pass on to future generations. Thank

you for your time. Wells Conference Center: please Wells Conference Center: alright from memory. I believe the gentleman in the orange shirt indicated that you wanted to provide comments. Wells Conference Center: This look. Wells Conference Center: hey? Hey? Sorry Wells Conference Center: you sound Wells Conference Center: seems to be Wells Conference Center: good afternoon. My name is Sergio Kowake, and I am an organizer within our health. I am here to ask you to issue a negative public benefit. Determination for the expansion of the Wells Conference Center: even. Our help is an environmental health organization based in Maine, and we work to make sure that everybody has equal access to safe food and drinking water, healthy homes and brothers that are toxic freely. For over 6 years we have worked under the contamination, issuing the same, and have allocated for testing and remediation, as well as mitigation measures to protect people in Maine from so-called whatever can it cost? Wells Conference Center: We have serious concerns regarding Silla's continued management of any permitted landfill and the negative environmental impacts of the landfill in the surrounding communities, and we believe that an expansion of the landfill will only exacerbate these issues Wells Conference Center: after the main nature voted resoundingly to ban the landfill application of Lodge in 2022 Catillo continued to send untreated Juniper Ridge to the private wastewater fertility. At the Idle Niagara paper, where it contributes to elevated levels of Defa. Entering the Peninsula River near the Penobscot Nations Reservation on Indian Island contaminating the river and the Beach that the Penobscot nation Wells Conference Center: been one Wells Conference Center: Cassella Subsidiary Company. Cassel Organics manages the cockreach sludge composting operation in the unincorporated territory of unity township while maine has done the composting of sewage sludge Cassell organics continues to sell contaminated compost to unsuspecting gardeners beyond main boundaries in groundwater wells reveal that cassella's cockreach facility is one of the world, contaminated Wells Conference Center: sites in the State with peak groundwater levels well above main state drinking water level. Numerous neighboring wells have been likewise severely poisoned. The fact that the Vermont Corporation chooses to operate such a dangerous business in a poor main town, with no local government, should raise serious concerns about their commitment to the health of their neighbors. Wells Conference Center: Additionally, Cassella used the implementation of Ld. 1,911, which banned the land application of sewage sludge as an excuse to operate a whole municipality's hostage in order to get the latest data to put the moratorium on demand in importation and part of safe waste. Arguing that the way what needed to bulk up the sludge Wells Conference Center: Casella gets paid by the town to Landfield. This out of State bulky waste taking a valuable and filled space that is needed for many waste. Instead of that valuable and fuel space being filled up by bulky construction with from Massachusetts. Wells Conference Center: This is not been a good neighbor for Stewart or not to space. Wells Conference Center: The current application does not have an adequate segment of impacts of people outside to the Hong Kong river and its cumulative impacts to the binocular people as well as Old Town and Alphan residents. Wells Conference Center: The expansion of Geneva provincial landfill will exacerbate environmental Inj we urge the department to review Casilla's request for expansion and issue an active public benefit determination. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Is there anyone else? Go ahead Wells Conference Center: and please, when you get up to the mic. You'll give us your thank you. Wells Conference Center: Good evening to the panel, to the people in the eyes. Wells Conference Center: I'm Judd Sd.

Kendall, that's ESTY and KEND. A. L. Wells Conference Center: I live in Glenburn, in Buxport, both of which are on an odd Scott River watershed, as is Juniper Ridge Wells Conference Center: from mine Wells Conference Center: presentation. Wells Conference Center: I'm simply gonna read a section of the name statutes. I understand that the decision here is regardless of all the Wells Conference Center: emotion and feeling and perceptions of people is going to be made based on mainstream regulations and statute. Wells Conference Center: I'm a retired attorney. I practice for 40 somebody years in the State of Maine. Wells Conference Center: and so I immediately go to the statutes as well. This is a different statute, but I want to read it in entirety. It's just one paragraph, and I was moved to do this by Miss Paul presentation because it seems to fall in line with this particular statute. Wells Conference Center: It's title guys with title. Section 4, 18. A protection of the Knotscott River Wells Conference Center: findings. The legislature finds that the Penalty River is a unique and valuable natural resource. Wells Conference Center: The Banowski River serves as an example to the nation that good public policy, carefully implemented, can restore and preserve our natural resources. Wells Conference Center: The river has supported it. Wells Conference Center: and is again beginning to support the greatest run of Atlantic salmon and 11 other species of Anagramus fish in North America, providing a unique fishing opportunity for Maine residents and members of the Penobscot Indian nation. Wells Conference Center: The legislature declares that the preservation and restoration of the Banal Sky River is of the highest priority. Wells Conference Center: The highest priority means. Wells Conference Center: then it chumps Wells Conference Center: any priority you are dealing with in terms of solid waste. Wells Conference Center: The preservation and restoration of the Penobscot River Wells Conference Center: is of the highest priority. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Yeah, thank you. Wells Conference Center: Thank you. Wells Conference Center: hello! Wells Conference Center: Thank you, Sarah and I live in Friber, Maine. But I was raised down river of Juniper Ridge and Eddington Wells Conference Center: and I, too, was inspired by the people who spoke before me. I didn't come prepared today to speak, but to listen and learn more, and prepare statements to put in. Wells Conference Center: just a minute later. But again, I want to get context to what my friend Kathy has said Wells Conference Center: and what the gentleman that just spoke before me had said, because you know, reading it. And you know, understanding the State statute is one thing, but putting in the context is everything. And so I just so happened that I had a lovely meeting with some friends. This weekend one friend whom Wells Conference Center: give the main Wells Conference Center: bill has Wells Conference Center: and this right here tells the story, because. Wells Conference Center: you know, I paused when the gift was given to me. Wells Conference Center: This represents a long relationship that me, my family, and so many others have had with indigenous people, and billhead season is something that we look forward to every year. Wells Conference Center: It nourishes us, it connects us with a land and waters of this place that we call home. Wells Conference Center: So when we think about the word ego means home. Wells Conference Center: and then we look up and think of the word economy Wells Conference Center: ego, and the suffix means the management of home. So this is economic exchange. What is the piece that is missing to ensure that I don't have to sit and look at this and be afraid to eat it. Wells Conference Center: Cause we know what is going into that river. Wells Conference Center: and we need to understand what the concentration of all of this waste going into one place is

doing Wells Conference Center: to ourselves because of externalities that we're paying as individuals of this business model, where it's already with our own bodies and centering our relationship to the land of the waters is famous. So I could speak a long time about this. And also when you've gotten up to speak about you know, being offered walk water Wells Conference Center: and bottles. And so that's not environmental justice, that Wells Conference Center: privatizing social policy and what should be protecting us from having to go that route. Wells Conference Center: And so again I'll submit my comments. But I just Wells Conference Center: you know this was on my mind. I wanted to see that into the space, and I'll read the back of it. It says these fiddleheads were proudly handpicked by the original stewards of Maine. Me with love sustainably and with respect for our environment. Wells Conference Center: all natural ingredients in this, and it's infinite comp in its infinite combination, put together. Wells Conference Center: Melissa Francis produced the meticulous hard work of Solv. Wells Conference Center: and I look forward to the next 7 generations being able to be nurtured by the river. Thank you. Wells Conference Center: Good evening. My name is Jim Pino, and I'm an Orno resident my family, and I live here in Orno downstream from the Juniper. Landfill, and I grew up at the time J. And when I grew up there were 2 working paper mills, and I lived along the banks of the Song River. So I'm used to listening to corporations get their way and listening to say acquiesc Wells Conference Center: corporations while families are trying to live and brought along dirty rivers, and so you and I, to urge State to decline. This request, and come up with a better plan. I noticed a couple of things on the slides Wells Conference Center: the moment it mentioned Wells Conference Center: the 2 slides that had all the lists of the of what the the landfill does ex accept. And Paul and Paper Sludge was on the second slide, and then on the 3rd slide said that the landfill doesn't accept hazardous waste, which Wells Conference Center: doesn't make a lot of sense to me. I might be wrong, and how quickly she went through the slides! But we all know what's happening with pfas and the Frederick chemicals. Years ago there were those in the Legislature who tried to stop these forever, chemicals being given to farmers and put on farms that are now people are actually having to sell the farms because of the chemicals. Wells Conference Center: and it's killing us. My boys and my wife and I love to play still water and non stop. We love to fish and swim in it. Wells Conference Center: And if the State has a requirement to consider environmental justice in this application. When I hear the term justice, I think equity and fairness, and if over 51% of the trap that the State handles comes to Juniper landfill. Now Wells Conference Center: an expansion is only going to increase. Wells Conference Center: How much this landfill covers I can't imagine that that is justice for the people who live near this landfill, so I urge you to decline this request. Get back to the drawing board, and come up with a better plan for the people of this area, and people of many. Thank you Wells Conference Center: and use. Wells Conference Center: Hi! My name is Ben Gibbon. I'm a resident of Waterville, Maine, and a rising senior at Colby college where I study government and environmental science Wells Conference Center: as an environmental science student, I am deeply concerned about the expansion of teaching appropriation. This expansion presents a danger to the environment and surrounding communities while presenting no clear benefit to public. Wells Conference Center: The Jrl. Has been proven to contaminate the waterways and soil that's surrounded by chemicals also known as ground chemicals. Wells Conference Center: He's commemorated serious health hazards, humans and animals. Wells Conference Center: Some of these health

issues include certain cancers, medium toxicity, fertility, and reproductive harm thyroid dysfunction and many more, as the nickname suggests. Wells Conference Center: He fast chemicals are able to persuade environment, human body for thousands of years. Wells Conference Center: There's no easy way to clean up, keep ass chemicals or damage on by them. Wells Conference Center: As result, allegiate from the Landville is filled with chemicals, and presents a real and immediate danger to the nearby Nascar tribe, and the people of Old Town and all Wells Conference Center: Felicia is taken from the Gerl to 9 Grand to renew Old Town through the tunnels, and then dungeons, if not stuck. Wells Conference Center: The standard waste water treatment. Profit is not effective at moving or removing the best, so the leachate is being dumped, dumped into river is still right with the best. Wells Conference Center: The treatment plan is also only one mile away, so the Legion dumped into the river, threatens the further contaminating already fingers. The contaminated river and limited efficiency Wells Conference Center: for the bit of Nov Scot nation and the surrounding towns is critical, that the juniper, rich mantle is not expanded. Wells Conference Center: Ignoring the clear warning signs and extending the land will only increase the quantity of toxic material and chemicals in this region. Wells Conference Center: This could very easily make its way into the surrounding communities as well as for the harm to people and their lives. Wells Conference Center: As a result, I implore you, issue negative public benefit termination, and protect the people of May. Thank you very much, for consideration Wells Conference Center: means statue. Is there anyone else you'd like to? Wells Conference Center: Okay. Wells Conference Center: Hi, good evening. My name is Gio Bordius. Wells Conference Center: I'm testifying for the negative public benefit of the expansion of the universe land, though. Wells Conference Center: I also attend Kobe College, and and then an incoming senior studying environmental science and public health and so running pollution and human health. Wells Conference Center: as well as issues of pfas, contamination and name. Wells Conference Center: I am deeply concerned that this expansion and increased leaching of harmful chemicals, like pfas into the surrounding land, and water, will not only have direct negative consequences for the land and wildlife, but also for the health and well-being of the surrounding communities, such as the Scott nation, the large influx of out of State construction and demolition debris to the Juniper Ridge. Landville has already Wells Conference Center: in the local area, and wildlife, especially people who rely, who have taken a lot of fish. Their diet have had to explicitly cut down on efficient and help minimize, minimize exposure. To harmful contaminants, such as pfas Wells Conference Center: he does deposit, and biodivers Wells Conference Center: which have been associated with health conditions like cancer ability issues, Wells Conference Center: irregular brain development and chomping and liver and thyroid issues. Wells Conference Center: Maine has been working hard in the past few years to protect its citizens and economy from this widespread and dangerous chemical. But with this expansion peepest contamination seeks to pose an even larger threat to the communities as well as the fish and wildlife which are so essential to Maine's identity and way of living. Wells Conference Center: The leaching of pfas and soil and water and wildlife in the area is also not only the not the only harmful effect that would be exacerbated if this expansion were to be approved. Wells Conference Center: an expansion would require Casella to take on significantly higher responsibilities, and without the growth of management infrastructure would increase risk of future crises such as the landfill fire last year, posing dangerous health risks like lung

heart and neurological diseases from the toxins release from the burning waste, including particulate matter, dioxins and heavy metals. Wells Conference Center: I thus urge you to issue a negative public benefit to the nation, to reject Casella's application for extension of the June courtage that involve, in consideration of the grave public health and environmental injustice. Thank you for your time. Wells Conference Center: Very nice. We'd like to provide Kevin Monthly. Wells Conference Center: Good evening. My name is Paige Holmes, and I'm an orno resident. I wasn't planning to speak today, but I have been moved to do so. I really want to appreciate, appreciate you being here with your team here today, and everyone who has spoken prior. I just want to Wells Conference Center: address the 1st presentation that was given and the need that was spoke of for us to expand this expanding bridge. I believe it's a false narrative. Let's Wells Conference Center: that's that's complete. Spin. Let's be clear that this would be a choice by the state to an e to do what is easy or expedient. In that Wells Conference Center: having 3 Wells Conference Center: State owned, or State run landfills along the penal stop basin is a choice, and it is unfair to the people who live and work and Wells Conference Center: along along the Penobscot. I wanna thank the woman from the Penobscot nation who spoke about that and everyone else as well. Wells Conference Center: Second, there. Someone mentioned the fire that happened at Juniper Ridge and living in Oregon. There were no alerts that went out to let those of us who live in the area know that the air quality was bad, and this was happening. And that is of the concern to myself and my family and neighbors. Wells Conference Center: I am Wells Conference Center: a mother of 2, and every day my sons and their children play in the Stillwater. They fish, and it's not just about me and my family and friends and neighbors. You have an incredible resource along the Stillwater. That is the University of Maine. I'm an alumni, and there are 12,000 students Wells Conference Center: each year at the University of Maine that will buy Wells Conference Center: the solar is integrated into a lot of the classes and programmings, and you are one Wells Conference Center: environmental disaster away from really fascinating Wells Conference Center: in consideration when he made this decision. Wells Conference Center: See here. Wells Conference Center: I also have not heard anything about the remediation of the pollution that is already existing before we add 61 acres, and I would like. Wells Conference Center: and Vanessa. Wells Conference Center: good evening, Commissioner William. My name is Anna Helen, and I'm co-executing director of Slingshot. Wells Conference Center: I sing shockingly. Believe that everyone deserves the right to breathe clean air, drink, clean water, and live in healthy, vibrant communities. Which is why I'm here today to urge you to issue a negative public benefit determination slinkshot is environmental health and justice organization working alongside a community most impacted by environmental health threats to take aim at polluters and build community power. Through this work we've witnessed the real threat that landfills posed to our community's environment. Wells Conference Center: Everyone knows that can improve landfill. It's already the size of mountain. Wells Conference Center: the expansion would add additional 8 Empire State buildings for waste landfill. Can you imagine 8 Empire State buildings worth waste? Wells Conference Center: We urge the Dep to issue a negative public benefit determination because Daryl does not pass the criteria for public benefit. Determination. Wells Conference Center: 1st things. First, st the application flicks with means solve waste management. Hierarchy. Wells Conference Center: expanding the landfill is nothing to increase production, prioritize the use, develop recycling or composting programs. Costella

has spent 2 decades squandering the State's limited landfill capacity, importing massive volumes of construction, demolition, debris contrary to State statute Wells Conference Center: casella charges, exorbitant recycling fees that work against the State's recycling goals and the company profits over a billion dollars annually making money off of this disposal of waste. Wells Conference Center: We need to be building towards a zero-based future where we're meaningfully reorienting how we manage resources and materials upstream. Significant waste production, composting, recycling, and redesign for healthcare communities in a healthier environment. Wells Conference Center: These weight management goals are at odds with the company, prompting from maximizing waste disposal Wells Conference Center: building capacity without meaningful plans for waste. Reduction only invites further pollution. Wells Conference Center: This is a shoddy mandate, approach to waste and materials management that does nothing to address the failures of the current system or create a meaningful long-term solution for our waste needs. Wells Conference Center: Secondly, expanding junior bridge landfill environmental justice requirements for impact communities. Wells Conference Center: As we've been hearing tonight, the landfill has been a source environmental justice for decades. Wells Conference Center: One of the most apparent ways is the disproportionate burden on the past nation disposal of minimally treated P. Possibly. Wells Conference Center: now that these sacred waters are contaminated, only a threat to help an environment of everyone in Maine, but especially the nation practices are directly impacted by this type of pollution on sacred lands. Wells Conference Center: 2019, that EPA found 7,331 per square 1 million people fish Wells Conference Center: due to the potential health risks. However, some travel members have continued to fish despite these risks because of the importance of practicing sustenance, rights and culture Wells Conference Center: for the market selling has been unable to manage odors from the operations that you never just occurred, and odors aren't just a nuisance, but they pose a potential health risk. Wells Conference Center: A common landfill odor is hydrogen sulfide, a toxic gas that can cause irritation in the eyes, respiratory issues, including as asthmatic, sometimes vomiting. And we've also been hearing a lot about this fire that broke out May last year. Juniper landfill burn for 4 h during an unfulfilled burner. Dioxins are used Wells Conference Center: when we think about these odors, when we think about air pollution, when we think about contamination of the Knox River, and how this impacts an Oxford nation working class seniors living in the surrounding communities. I can't fathom how we can argue that this fulfills environmental justice criteria. Wells Conference Center: We urge you to issue an independent environment review landfill practices and accumulative environmental justice impacts prior to any acceptance of an expansion application. Any expansion must be conditioned required to watering system split, sending a maximum fill limit, placing a cap on the pulverized construction of debris funds used for ultimate daily cover onsite beach pfas payment system. Wells Conference Center: Ideally, we also need to break up with the seller. They have a toxic monopoly and waste management name and then benefit here and across the region. So, Commissioner Wisem, we urge you to turn the tide with 0 waste solutions. And that's negative determination. Thanks so much for taking action for tech environment Wells Conference Center: there. Anyone else who would like to write a comments Wells Conference Center: if I wear well, usually Wells Conference Center: alright, seeing none. We did publish that. We'd be here until 7 30. So we're getting a little close to that time. I wanna thank everybody for having come this evening. We will stick around for a bit in case somebody else

shows up but really appreciate you all taking the time and the effort. You made excellent comments together this evening. Wells Conference Center: Again, a reminder that any additional information you'd like to provide can be submitted in writing to parent communities. Project manager her address is on that handout by the door if you didn't grab one yet, please do so. And thanks again. Very much.